

Learning CF9: Why Don't My Comment-Based Attributes Work?

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If you're like me, you absolutely love CF9's new script-based CFCs. I recently re-worked a very simple class and went from 111 lines of code in my old tag-based version down to 66 lines of code in the new all-script version. Nice! But I was having trouble getting comment-based attributes for the component, properties, and functions to actually work.

According to the [CF9 docs](#) , you can use comments to create the various bits of metadata for your CFC. For example:

```
.. /**
?. * I am the hint for a simple component
?. */
t. component {
i. }
```

In the above example, the plain text in the comment is the equivalent of using the `hint=""` attribute on the `<cfcomponent>` tag. What the docs do not tell you is that you **must** use that exact opening syntax. That is, an opening slash followed by two (or more) asterisks (*).

I have always used a similar syntax, but with just a single asterisk, like so:

```
.. /*
?. * I am the hint for a simple component
?. */
t. component {
i. }
```

It took me forever to figure out why my comment-based metadata was not working properly. Hopefully by writing this post I not only remember it myself, but also help someone else out in the process. :-)