

Amulets of Kemet



Amulets in Egyptian graves began as green schist stone figures of animals. These were laid upon the dead in hopes of giving them a place in the heavenly otherworld. Where most prehistoric people wanted their dead to stay firmly in the grave, Egyptians wanted them to walk and see and speak – but in the heavens - and on earth in the form of animals. There were rites to open the mouth and the eyes and the legs to spirit energy.

Later as the ideas of the gods became clear, and writing was well developed, the names of deities were written on the amulets and prayers were spoken over them. These have survived in the famous Book of the Dead. It seems as if the gods are being compelled to help the dead person. In my opinion, if the gods are true beings of wisdom, compassion and power, then what is being established is a rapport with the gods. A memory of what humans were and can be.



Amulet of the Heart – This gives the power of life and awareness of good and evil. Your heart was taken from you and weighed on the scales to see if you were allowed to go to heaven.

Amulet of the Scarab – The scarab beetle was thought to resurrect itself from a ball of dung. It was the sign of Khepera the sun of the eastern horizon rising once more. This sometimes replaced the heart figurines and beetles were even used in jinx-breaking spells.



Amulet of the Buckle of Isis – Usually made of red carnelian or jasper, this buckle is often depicted in the lower hand of Isis, her other hand raised to heaven. In the Book of the Dead it reads: *the blood of Isis and the strength of Isis and the words of power of Isis shall be mighty to protect this person.*

Amulet of the Tet – The land of Egypt was thought to rest on the four pillars of the directions. The four crossbars of a tet figurine invoke the protection and stability of their magic. Also, the tet refers to the resurrection of Osiris and the Tree of Concealed Life. It was held in the left hand while the buckle of Isis was held in the right. It could also be a sly reference to the artificial penis of Osiris.



Amulet of the Vulture – This invokes the power of the Great Mother to spread her wings over you. She carries ankh charms. She is Isis or Nekhebet, depending on the texts. She was worn around the neck in a sort of golden collar. She comes from Upper Egypt where the Nile comes from Ethiopia.

Amulet of the Papyrus Scepter – this gives a youthful appearance and vitality, and comes from the important papyrus plant of the Nile delta. Egyptians made paper by pounding strips of this together. Sometimes it is shown topped by the feather plumes of the wind god Amon since the reeds bow and sway in the wind.



Amulet of the Soul – This shows a bird with a human head. A person had a complicated system of personal energies but this amulet would help keep them together and well. It could be used for healing.

Amulet of the Ladder – Heaven was thought to rest high in the sky on a plate of iron and sometimes you needed help to climb into it. Even Horus needed a ladder from Ra. Spirit ladders had watchful gods holding them on either side, usually Horus and Set. This amulet was painted on tomb walls rather than being carved in stone.



Amulet of the Two Fingers – Carved from hematite or obsidian, this charm helped one up the ladder. I am grinning as I wonder how! Seriously, reiki healers know you can force a concentrated energy by pointing fingers.

Amulet of the Sam – This charm refers to pleasure, especially sexual, in the afterlife. It is very ancient and carved in lapis lazuli.



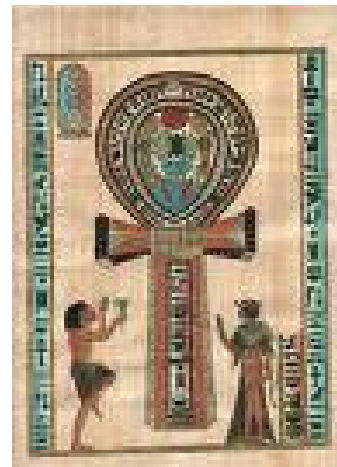


Amulet of the Eye of Horus – A very famous and important amulet that protects and brings strength and good luck. Horus had one of his eyes struck out in a fight with his uncle Set, killer of his father Osiris. Isis his mother made him a new one and he won the battle. The left eye is the “dark” one, that is, the moon, and the right eye the “light” one, the sun, in some texts.



Very early coffins were not shaped like human figures with faces on the top, as we see them in movies. These ones simply had a pair of eyes on the side facing the east, so the dead could “see out”!

Amulet of the Ankh of Life – This is also a famous charm and it gives life in the sense of supernatural vitality. Every god carries one. It was usually a pendant on a necklace.





Amulet of the Nefer – This charm brings joy and good luck. It is made from gold or red stone. Deities such as Bast the cat goddess, Hathor the cow goddess, and Isis the Mother are called by a nefer.

Amulet of the Serpent head – A very old charm against snake bite, usually made of red stone, and often associated with Isis who is Mistress of Poison Snakes and their healing.



Amulet of the Shen – The orbit of the sun brings eternity to you and life. Carved from red or blue stones. Often painted on walls with Isis and Nephthys resting their hands upon it. It also means “Name”.

Amulet of the Frog – This is another charm of resurrection, since tadpoles come out of nowhere it seems. It is very old. The oldest male gods all have frog heads while the females have snake heads. This could represent ancestors helping you.





Amulet of the Menat – Held in the hand along with a sistrum, which is the rattle of Hathor, this gives food and strength and sexual potency.

Amulet of the triangular plumb-bob and the stone mason's square are amulets of Ptah and give protection, craft ability and truth. These may well be the fore-runner of the freemasons' compass and square. (the plumb line cord drops from the point of the triangle down between the stocky feet and the weight is round, perhaps the origin for an eye in a triangle.)



Amulet of the Plumes of Ammon – Gives protection of the Wind God of Thebes and later of Amon-Ra the sun god. Often crowning papyrus stalks in paintings. Ammon has a secret name which people today think is Yamonu. He was a war god and then a ram god with Min of the Phallus and then a sun god with Ra. Much honored in Kush.

To attune to the amulets of kemet

The Egyptians loved water and good earth and plants much more than the sandy desert. Perhaps you could get a live house plant, a bowl of water and some dark potting soil on a saucer.

Light incense and say a few words of respect and gratitude to the neteru, the gods and goddesses of Egypt which is called Kemet, the black land.

Then take a symbol in your mind and accept its helping energy.

Good luck!

