

Magical gem: Horus as child sitting on lotus

Cbd-Number	Cbd-514
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 70, EA 56070
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 70 (EA 56070)
References	Michel, BM, no. 114; Michel, DMG, no. 19.1.b_34
Material	jasper, green to black
Dimensions	18 x 15 x 3 mm
Dating	17th-18th c. AD (Michel) gesture, hand raised to mouth; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up;
Iconography	Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; crown?; plant: lotus buds (3); flail



Credits: Photo: Christopher A. Faraone
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A: Harpocrates sitting to right on a lotus with knees drawn up; under the flower three lotus stalks with buds. Horus' left hand raised to his mouth, his right holds a flail. On the top of his head a crown? On the left of the figure: αἰὼν → αἰών. 'Eternity'. On the right of the figure, with deeper scratches: ιχχχι → palindrome.

B: Plain.

A praxis known from a papyrus (PGM LXI 1-38) specifies that love charms had to be incised with the image of Horus on a lotus flower and the magical name Abraxas. Pieces with the Horus-scheme used as love charms: [CBd-533](#), [CBd-534](#).

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on Cbd-514](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on Cbd-514](#)