

# Magical gem: Horus as child in papyrus boat, triads of animals

<b>CBd-Number</b>	CBd-528
<b>ID-Number</b>	GB-BM-MMEu_G 493, EA 56493
<b>Collection</b>	GB_London, The British Museum
<b>Inventory</b>	G 493 (EA 56493)
<b>References</b>	Michel, BM, no. 128; Michel, DMG, no. 19.4_1
<b>Material</b>	haematite (black)
<b>Dimensions</b>	20 x 13 x 1.5 mm
<b>Dating</b>	3rd c. AD (Michel)
<b>Iconography</b>	gesture, hand raised to mouth; crown, unspecified; flail; animal: crocodiles (3); bird: falcons (3); animal: goats (3); scarabs (3); scarab; moon, crescent; snakes (3); solar disk; side-lock of youth; Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; boat, papyrus



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A: Harpocrates sitting to left on a lotus flower with double stalk, in the middle of a small papyrus boat. The god's knees are drawn up, his right hand raised to mouth, his left holds a flail. A long side-lock of youth is falling to his neck, on the top of his head: the solar disk. Above his left shoulder: a crescent. Around Harpocrates triads of animals: scarabs; falcons wearing crowns; crocodiles; uraeus snakes and goats.

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-528](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-528](#)