

Magical(?) gem: Horus on the lotus flower (A) scarab (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-98
ID-Number	GB-Cambridge, Fitzwilliam_B 317 (CM)
Collection	GB_Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum
Inventory	B 317 (CM)
References	Henig, Cambridge, no. 496; Michel, DMG, no. 19.1.b_21
Material	lapis lazuli (blue)
Dimensions	13 x 10 x 3 mm
Dating	2nd-3rd c. AD (Henig) Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; solar disk; side-lock of youth; flail;
Iconography	plant: lotus buds (2); scarab; gesture, hand raised to mouth



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A: Harpocrates sitting nude with knees drawn up on a lotus flower with two buds. Head and feet to right. Head crowned with the solar disk, side-lock of youth visible. Right hand holding a flail, left hand raised to mouth.

B: Scarab from above, crawling to top.

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

[Henig 1994](#), 224, no. 496.

[Michel, DMG](#), 19.1.b_21