

### Anubis statue on funerary casket

The statue shows the god Anubis in his full jackal form. He was always black, as this colour was associated with death and rebirth. Statues like this were popular in Egyptian tombs as one of Anubis' main roles was guiding the soul of the dead to the court of Osiris. Also, real jackals were a common problem in ancient Egypt for digging up bodies from shallow graves and eating them. Statues of Anubis were believed to protect the tomb from being desecrated in this way, making Anubis the guardian of cemeteries.



### Tutankhamun's wooden coffin

This wooden coffin is one of three coffins used in Tutankhamun's tomb. They protected the pharaoh's mummified body and helped prevent deterioration. The heart was left inside the chest cavity. If it were destroyed, then the person's soul would never reach the afterlife. The coffins were highly decorated on both the inside and outside and used a lot of gold and silver to show Tutankhamun's status as pharaoh. The coffin is carved to show Tutankhamun holding the crook and flail, the symbols of a pharaoh.

### Canopic jars

As part of the mummification process, internal organs such as the liver, lungs, stomach and intestines were removed from the body as they were full of liquid. This liquid would have caused the body to decompose. These organs were still necessary for the afterlife though, so they were placed in canopic jars and placed near to the body. The jars were believed to represent the four sons of Horus, the falcon god. Each organ was then placed in a specific jar, matching the correct god, and sealed to preserve and protect them. In later Egyptian dynasties, the lids of the canopic jars were carved to show which god protected them. Imsety the human-headed god looked after the liver, Hapy the baboon-headed god looked after the lungs, Duamutef the jackal-headed god looked after the stomach and Qebehsenuef the falcon-headed god looked after the intestines. Tutankhamun's canopic jars, however, had human-head shaped lids.



### **Golden throne**

Even though it is known as Tutankhamun's Golden Throne, the throne is made out of wood. It is covered with gold and silver leaf and decorated with semi-precious stones and coloured glass. The image in the centre of the throne shows Tutankhamun and his wife, Ankhesenamun. The throne was a symbol of the power and authority of a pharaoh.

### **Head of a leopard**

The leopard was celebrated in ancient Egypt and pharaohs admired them for their beauty and strength. Leopards had long been extinct in ancient Egypt, but pharaohs had them imported from southern Africa as pets. Leopards were seen as sacred animals by priests. Their skins were worn as part of the priest's clothing as their hide symbolised the victory of Anubis over Seth in Egyptian mythology.

### **Ankh-shaped mirror case**

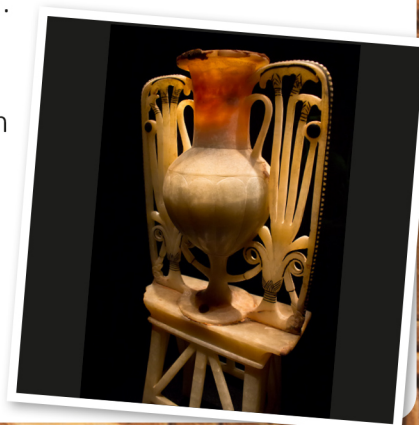
Mirrors were expensive items in ancient Egypt and were only used by the very rich. The case is covered in thin sheets of gold on the outside, whereas the inside is coated in silver. The lid is decorated with coloured glass and semi-precious stones. Tutankhamun's cartouche is also printed on the case. The shape of the case is significant, as the ankh was the Egyptian symbol for 'life' and 'mirror'.

### **Scarab pendant**

Ancient Egyptians felt that scarab beetles appeared out of nowhere each day, similar to the sun god, Ra. Due to this similarity, the scarab beetle became the sacred symbol of regeneration and resurrection. Scarab beetle pendants were used as good luck charms by both rich and poor. They believed that by writing the owner's name on the pendant, the wearer would gain protective, magical powers. In funerals, the scarab pendant would be placed over the body's chest, so that the heart would be protected during judgement by Osiris. This would ensure that the wearer's soul would be able to enter the afterlife.

### **Alabaster unguent vase**

Several vases were found in the tomb of Tutankhamun. They had been cut from a single piece of alabaster, which took the skill of a master craftsman. The vase was designed to hold perfume and oils for the pharaoh to use in the afterlife and had the cartouche of Tutankhamun engraved on it.





### Tutankhamun's fan

The ostrich feather fan was mainly used as a sunshade in ancient Egypt. It is made of wood but is covered in sheet gold with detailed etchings of Tutankhamun hunting. An inscription is carved into the metal, praising Ra, and asking for his blessing.



### Death mask

This death mask is considered one of the most beautiful ever created. Made from sheets of gold, the mask weighs over 10 kg. It is decorated to make Tutankhamun look as close to the image of a god as possible. The mask has sculpted images of gods and goddesses to protect Tutankhamun's spirit and even has an ancient Egyptian spell from the Book of the Dead inscribed on the back to help him reach the afterlife. On his forehead, there is a vulture's head and a cobra's head. These show that he was the ruler of both Upper and Lower Egypt.

### Jewelled falcon

Around the neck of Tutankhamun's mummy was a jewelled falcon collar. It is made out of gold and decorated with coloured glass and semi-precious stones. The falcon design celebrates the god, Horus, who represented the sun and kingship.



### Senet board

This popular game was played throughout ancient Egypt for over 1000 years by both rich and poor. It would have been a favourite game of the pharaoh. Tutankhamun had it buried with him so it could be taken to play in the afterlife.

