



MAKING MUMMIES



Making a mummy was a complicated job! First the dead person's brain and some other organs were removed and put in jars called **canopic jars**. Then the body was covered with salts and left to dry for up to **40 days**.

When the body was dry it was stuffed with linen and other things to help it keep its shape. Then it was sealed and bound tightly with linen bandages.



The priest in charge wore a jackal mask and represented the Egyptian God called **Anubis**.

An amulet was placed with the mummy for luck.

These are the **canopic jars** that contained the liver, stomach, intestines and lungs of the dead person. The heart was not removed. Each jar represented a god.

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The Ancient Egyptians also sometimes mummified their favourite pets. Mummification was expensive so it would generally be something that would happen when

a nobleman or pharaoh had died. This picture shows a mummified dog and cat but a mummified crocodile was once discovered by archaeologists! It was over four and a half meters long!

A mask called a 'death mask' was fitted over the face of a mummy. The Egyptians believed that this helped the dead person's spirit recognise the mummy later on. A pharaoh's mask would have been made from gold and jewels.



When it was ready for burial, a mummy was placed in a special case. Some were simple wooden boxes but others would be shaped like the mummy and richly decorated.

If the mummy was an important person, like a pharaoh or nobleman, it would then be sealed inside a stone coffin called a sarcophagus.



Tutankhamen's death mask

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