



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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