

Egypt



Eye of Horus necklace of Amazonite, ancient blue glass and gold beads. Ghetti collection.



E-1



A necklace of nine tapered carnelian barrel beads alternating with eight flared gold tubes with a central rib. The carnelian beads are faceted with flared gold tubes. The gold tubes are separated by

eighteen lapis lazuli barrel beads each faced with a pair of granulated gold ring beads on either side. These are faced with a pair of turquoise disc beads, separating the ribbed gold tubes from the pairs of granulated ring beads. A pair of beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace.



E-1

The center carnelian bead is 1.82 cm in length. It is 5 mm in width at the center and 3 mm in width at the ends. The drill diameter is 2mm. The next carnelian bead back and to the left in the photograph is 1.4 cm in length. It is 4 mm in width at the center and the end width is 2.9 mm. The drill hole diameter is 2mm. The carnelian bead opposite on the right is 1.5 cm in length. It is 4 mm in width at the center and the end width is 2,9 mm. The next set is 1 cm in length, width at the center is 4 mm and end widths are 3.2 mm. The next set of longer beads (second from the back) are 1.44 cm in length and 1.42 mm in length. The width at the center is 4 mm and the end widths are 3mm. The last set to the back are 9 mm in length, 4mm in width at the center and 3 mm in width at the ends. The lapis lazuli barrel beads range in size from 4.2 mm in length and 4 mm in diameter to 3 mm in length and 2.9 mm in length. The drill holes are 1.5 mm to 2.25 mm in diameter. The turquoise discs are 1.5 mm to 2mm in length and 3 mm in diameter. Drill hole diameters are 1.5 mm. The seventy-two gold granulated ring beads also graduate in size from 3.8 mm to 2.5 mm. The eight flared tubes with a central rib are 1.42 cm in length. The width at the center (the diameter of the rib) is 4.2 mm. The eighteen flared tubes are 7.25 mm in length to 5.5 mm and are made to be proportional to the carnelian beads they face. Their end diameters are also made to be just slightly larger than the end diameters of the carnelian beads they face so that the carnelian tubes will nest just inside the flared tubes. The gold is 20k.

The beads are ancient and come from Afghanistan, so they are not ancient Egyptian in origin. They are contemporaneous with ancient Egypt and are strung in a design very reminiscent of the jewels Queen Mereret of Dahshur, who may be said to be the inspiration for the design. The sinuous curves of the tapered tube beads and the flared gold tubes along with the use of the four colors of ancient

Egyptian royal jewelry, orange carnelian, deep blue lapis lazuli, blue green turquoise and pure gold convey the esthetic of ancient Egypt.

E-1

The necklace is $24 \frac{3}{8}$ inches (61 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 20 gm.



E-2

A necklace of twelve gold tube beads faced with small turquoise disc beads alternating with lapis lazuli and carnelian barrel beads, each faced with a pair of granulated gold ring beads, fifty-two in all. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace. The gold is 20k.

The centerpiece of the necklace is a long tapered carnelian tube bead, a deep red orange color, with darker colored ends. The bead is 2.95 cm in length, 5 cm in width at the center and having end diameters of 3 mm. The drill hole is 2mm in diameter and can be clearly seen through the transparent sides of the bead. It was drilled from both ends and the two holes meet about 1.6 cm from one end.

Four of the remaining six carnelian beads are straight sided tube beads, one is a tapered barrel, and one is a tapered barrel but slightly flattened in cross section. The bicone (one back from the center on the left side of the photograph), is 1 cm in length, 5 mm in width at the center and with end diameters of 4 mm. The drill hole diameter is 2.3 mm; it is drilled from both ends and holes meet in the center. Its opposite in the necklace is a tube with a length of 8.8 mm and an outside diameter of 4.4 mm. The hole diameter is 1.2 mm. Back from this bead is a carnelian tube bead with a white quartz end. This bead is 1.08 cm in length, 4 mm in diameter and with a hole diameter of 1.4 mm. It opposite in the necklace has a length of 1 cm, the width at the center is 5mm-4mm, being slightly flattened in shape and 4mm-3mm in width at the ends. The hole diameter is 1.3 mm. The two carnelian tube beads at the back are both 7.5 mm in length and 4 mm in diameter. The hole diameters are 1.5mm and 2 mm. We estimate the age, based on these measurements, to be about two thousand years old. The lapis lazuli barrel beads are 1 cm in length , 4.3mm- 5mm in width at the center, 3.5 mm in width at the ends and with drill hole diameters of 2 mm. The turquoise discs are 3 mm in diameter and 2mm to 3mm in length. The gold tubes are 1.25 cm in length and 3 mm in diameter. The gold ring beads are 3.8 mm in diameter. The gold is 20k.

The beads are Asiatic in origin, but the feel of the necklace is ancient Egyptian. The beads are contemporaneous with the New Kingdom, and beads very similar to these were used in that time.

E-2

The necklace is 19 3/8 inches (48.6 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 23 gm.



E-2



E-3

A choker style necklace of two connected strands of twenty cylindrical carnelian tube beads faced with turquoise disc beads, eighteen gold tube beads faced with lapis lazuli beads, alternating with eight tabular carnelian beads and five square flat agate spacer beads with two drill holes. There are fifty-four gold granulated ring beads in the necklace (diameter 2.7 mm). A braided cord fitted with a slide allows the necklace to be drawn up snug around the neck; the slide is made from a rhomboid shaped quartz bead with a gold cap and a round lapis lazuli bead faced with granulated gold ring beads. The agate spacer beads (clockwise from upper right in the photograph) have the following dimensions: (1.) Height 1.22 cm, width 8.5mm, thickness 5 mm, drill hole diameters 2 mm. The holes are 5 mm from center to center. (2.) Height 1.4 cm, width 1.05 cm, thickness 5mm, drill hole diameters 2 mm. The holes are 6mm from center to center. (3.) Height 1.35 cm, width 1.1 cm, thickness 6.8 mm, drill hole diameters 2 mm. The holes are 7.2 mm from center to center. (4.) Height 1.3 cm, width 1.06 cm, thickness 5 mm, drill hole diameters 1.9 mm. The holes are 6 mm from center to center. (5.) Height 1.24 cm, width 1.05 cm, thickness 4.5mm, drill hole diameters 2 mm. The holes are 6.2 mm from center to center. The cylindrical carnelian beads are 9 mm in length (the pairs on the ends are 7mm) and 3.5 mm in diameter with drill hole diameters of 1.8 mm. The cylindrical gold tubes are 6.9 mm in length and 2.5 mm in diameter. The gold is 20k. There are thirty-six small lapis lazuli beads that face the gold tubes; these are 3 mm in diameter and 1mm -2mm in length. There are forty small turquoise

disc beads that face the carnelian tube beads; these are 2.5 mm in diameter and 1.6 mm in length. There are eight tabular carnelian beads 7.5 mm in diameter and 3.2 mm in thickness. The drill hole diameters are 1.3 mm. The round lapis lazuli bead in the slide is 5.4 mm in diameter. The drill hole diameter is 2mm. The quartz bead in the slide is 1.18 cm in length, 1.2 cm in width, 4 mm in thickness and has a drill hole diameter of 2.5 mm.

The stone beads in the necklace are two thousand years old. The quartz bead in the slide is from the Bronze Age and is four thousand years old. Choker style necklaces have been worn since the archaic period.



E-3

The necklace is 12 9/16 inches (3 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 23.3 gm.





E-4

A necklace of fourteen gold flared tube beads with a central rib, alternating with barrel beads of lapis lazuli and carnelian with a central large carnelian bicone bead capped with gold ends and banded around the center at its widest point. Each of the gold tubes are faced with a turquoise disc bead and each of the lapis and carnelian barrel beads are faced with a granulated gold ring bead (sixty-eight in all). A set of beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace. The gold is 20k. The gold decorating the center bead has been patinated. The over all length of the bead and caps is 4.1 cm. The diameter of the bead and the gold band at the center is 8.8 mm. The diameter at the end of the caps is

4.5 mm. The diameter of the drill hole is 2.5 mm. The dimensions of the carnelian barrel beads are as follows (clockwise from top right): (1.) Length 1 cm, width at center 4.2 mm, width at ends 3.1 mm, drill hole diameter 1.5mm. There has been some regrinding to redress chipping. (2.) Length 9.8 mm, width at center 3.9 mm, width at ends 3.5 mm, hole diameter 1.6 mm. (3.) Length 9.1 mm, width at center 4.5 mm, width at ends 4 mm, hole diameter 2.0 mm.(4.) Length 1.3 cm, width at center 5 mm, width at ends 4.9 mm, hole diameter 1.8 mm. (5.) Length 3.5 cm, width at center 8 mm, width at ends 5 mm, hole diameter 2.5 mm. (6.) Length 1 cm, width at center 5.5 mm, width at ends 5 mm, diameter of hole 1 mm. (7.) Length 9.2 mm, width at center 4.9 mm, width at ends 4.8 mm, hole diameter 1 mm. (8.) Length 8 mm, width at center 4 mm, width at ends 3 mm, hole diameter 1 mm. (9.)Length 9 mm, width at center 3.5 mm, width at ends 3 mm, hole diameter 1 mm.

The bicone barrel beads of lapis lazuli are 9.5 mm to 10.5 mm in length. The width at the center is 5mm – 6mm. The end widths are 3.2 mm- 3.5 mm and the drill hole diameters are 2 mm. The turquoise disc beads are 2.0 mm-2.5 mm in length and 3.5 mm in diameter with drill holes of 1 mm.

The gold tube beads are 9 mm in length and the end diameters are 3.5 mm. The central rib is 4.4 mm in diameter. The granulated ring beads are 3.8 mm in diameter.

The center bead is a Bronze Age bead from the Indus Valley civilization of present day north Indian and Pakistan and is four thousand years old. The remaining stone beads are two thousand years old and from the same general area. The use of the four colors, red-orange carnelian, deep blue lapis lazuli, blue green turquoise and high carat gold, and the alternating bands of color give this necklace a very Egyptian feeling. The beads are contemporaneous with the New Kingdom, and beads very similar to these were used in Egypt at that time. All the lapis lazuli used in ancient Egypt was imported from present day Afghanistan. Carnelian beads made by the Sumerians have also been found in ancient Egyptian burials, confirming that trade in these materials was carried on in ancient times. Egypt was especially well known for its gold and its magic. The influence of contact and trade with Asia in the jewelry of the New Kingdom is notable.

The necklace is 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (47.5 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 27.4 gm.



E-5

A necklace of twenty-six gold tubes alternating with twenty-six lapis lazuli barrel beads faced with pairs of gold granulated ring beads, one hundred-four in all. Each of the gold tubes is faced with a lapis disc bead. A lapis lazuli pendant of a goddess is at the center of the necklace. A pair of gold beading

tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace. The lapis lazuli pendant is 2.1 cm in height. She stands on a base that is 7.5 mm wide and 6.8 mm deep. From the tip of the nose to the back it is 6.5 mm. The width of the shoulders is 7 mm. The lapis barrel beads range in size from 4.2 mm to 6 mm in length, and are 2.9 mm -3.2 mm in diameter. The disc beads are 3 mm – 3.8 mm in diameter and 2 mm in length. The drill holes are 1 mm in diameter.

The gold tubes are 7.5 mm in length and 2.5 mm in diameter as are the granulated ring beads. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace. The gold is 20 k.



E-5

The lapis lazuli pendant is remarkably detailed considering its small size- only 13/16 of an inch in height. Although it is not easily seen in this photograph, there are suggestions of facial features and the view in profile reveals a chin, lips and nose. A heavy wig tops the slightly oversized head and the sides hang down over the tops of the shoulders. The goddess's arms hang down her sides with the hands pressed against the thighs. The navel is shown and the pubic triangle is subtly delineated. The goddess represented is Nephthys, sister of Isis. The two sisters are identical except for their crowns by which they can be identified. Isis wears a stepped crown and Nephthys has bowl-like top on her tall crown. The crown is wide on the top and narrow on the bottom which leaves it vulnerable to being snapped off as has been the case with this piece. Regrinding to remove what remained has left a small flat circle on the top of the head. It is said to be from the period 1075 -600 BC. If it is indeed from the Late Period instead of the end of the New Kingdom, it shows that the high standards of art achieved during that time could still survive into the Late Period.

The necklace is 19 1/8 inch (48.7 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 13.8 gm.



E-6

A necklace of fourteen carnelian cylindrical tube beads alternating with sixteen gold cylindrical tube beads and a carnelian scarab beetle pendant. The carnelian beads are faced with turquoise disc beads and the gold tubes are faced with disc beads of lapis lazuli. Thirty-two gold granulated ring

beads separate the lapis lazuli and turquoise discs. Suspended on a gold wire is a carnelian Egyptian scarab. There is a boss on the end of the wire that passes through the drill hole of the scarab. The wire is split and the two ends pass through a flared gold tube before spiraling in opposite directions around the cord on which the necklace is strung. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace.

The carnelian tubes are 7.5 mm – 9 mm in length and 3 mm – 3.9 mm in diameter. The drill hole diameters are 1.5 mm. The turquoise discs are 3.1 mm in diameter and about 2 mm in length. The lapis beads are similar in width and about 2 mm in length. The gold tubes are 5.5 mm in length and 2 mm in diameter. The granulated ring beads, thirty-two in all, are 3 mm in diameter and follow the sizes of the disc beads as they graduate to smaller size at the back of the necklace.



The scarab is probably the most representative symbol of ancient Egyptian civilization; examples have been found dating to the Sixth Dynasty c. 2345 BC. This scarab is 1.2 cm in length, 9 mm in width, 5.9 mm in thickness, and the drill hole diameter is 1 mm. There are no inscriptions on the back; based on stylistic considerations it appears to be from the Middle Kingdom (c. 2040-1633). The scarab beetle was employed as an amulet to protect the wearer from mysterious hostile forces. Beads and amulets may be worn for various reasons, but in ancient Egypt the fundamental and most compelling purpose of jewelry was to protect from inimical powers. The colors of the stones themselves were protective as they came from the earth and preserved within themselves the color of life-blood, the fresh green of up sprouting vegetation, the blue of life-giving water, and the blue of the sacred sky realms. One was adorned with a celebration of all the nurturing powers of the earth. Among such magical substances must also be included gold. Easily worked and never losing its lustre, it contains within itself all the fiery light and glory of the sun. The use of the four colors, red-orange carnelian, deep blue lapis lazuli, blue green turquoise and high carat gold, and the alternating bands of color give this necklace its Egyptian feeling. The stone beads of the necklace are over two thousand years years

old, but unlike the carnelian scarab, they were not produced in ancient Egypt, but rather are from the Near East. The beads are contemporaneous with the scarab, and beads very similar to these were used in Egypt at that time. All the lapis lazuli used in ancient Egypt was imported from present day Afghanistan. Carnelian beads made by the Sumerians have also been found in ancient Egyptian burials, confirming that trade in these materials was carried on in ancient times.

E-6

The necklace is 16 inches (41 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 13 gm.



E-7

A necklace of twenty-three carnelian shells faced with cylindrical gold tube beads alternating with small carnelian beads. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace. The shell pendants are ancient Egyptian from Tel Amarna c. 1400 BC.

The shells are 1.4 cm in height, 1 cm in width, 3.2 mm in thickness, with drill holes of 1 mm. The small carnelian beads are 3mm in diameter. The gold tubes are 6 mm in length and 2 mm in diameter. The gold is 20k.



E-7

Shells have been used as jewelry since the earliest times and the ancient Egyptians used several types of shells as ornaments. Early forms of jewelry (by that I mean anything used to adorn the human body) used perishable items such as flowers, the hollowed out bodies of scarab beetles as well as shells, and rendering the forms in more permanent materials soon occurred. These shell pendants are an excellent example and show the precision and consistency of their lapidary work. The carnelian is well chosen for its color and the shells have been carefully made. The shells were highly polished before seven or eight grooves were cut into each surface to depict the scallop shell. The back sides of the shells have been carved out as carefully as the front sides have been shaped, allowing more light to come through and reducing the weight of each piece. There is no appreciable damage or wear to the pieces; they appear to have hardly been worn. The drill holes go straight through the stems and do not meet in the middle, having been drilled from each side, as is the case with drilling in the Near East and Indian subcontinent. Although the shells are very consistent in size and shape, it is evident that each piece was individually crafted. There are very minor irregularities in the forms from piece to piece, but they are essentially identical and display the high level of craftsmanship that can be found in ancient Egyptian jewelry.



E-7

The shells are said to come from Tel Amarna c. 1400 BC. This is the New Kingdom Period, Dynasty XVIII, and famous for the reign of Tuthmosis III. With the discovery of the tomb of Tut-ankh-amun, the boy king who ruled at the end of Dynasty XVIII, by Howard Carter, this period has become well known to the modern world. Also from this period is the controversial king Akhenaten, who has garnered much attention in the twentieth century for his ultimately unsuccessful attempt to abolish the pantheon of Egyptian gods and to promote the exclusive worship of the sun.

The necklace is 18 inches (45.8 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 20.5 gm.



E-7



E-8

A necklace of thirty ancient Egyptian carnelian poppy flower pendant beads, faced with gold granulated ring beads, and alternating with round carnelian beads also faced with gold granulated ring beads; with gold round beads alternating between the carnelian beads. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp complete the necklace.

The poppy flower pendants are 1.2 cm – 1.35 mm in height and 5 mm – 5.9 mm in width. The drill hole diameters are 1.2 mm. The round carnelian beads are 4mm in diameter and have drill holes of 1.2 mm. The gold spheres are 4.5 mm and the granulated ring beads are 2.8 mm. The gold is 20k and has been patinated to a reddish color as was sometimes done in ancient Egypt.



E-8

Early forms of jewelry (by that I mean anything used to adorn the human body) in ancient Egypt used perishable items such as flowers, the hollowed out bodies of scarab beetles as well as shells, and rendering these forms in more permanent materials soon occurred. These flower pendants are an excellent example and show the precision and consistency of their lapidary work. The carnelian is well chosen for its color and the forms are crisp and highly polished. The drill holes pass straight through the stems and are not drilled from each side to meet in the middle (as is the case in the Near East and Indian subcontinent).



E-8

The carnelian beads are said to have come from Tel Amarna, from the time of King Tut-ankh-amun. This is the New Kingdom Period, Dynasty XVIII (1559 – 1353). The two other famous Pharaohs from this period are Tuthmosis III and Akhenaton.

The necklace is 22 ¼ inches (56.7 cm) in length.
The necklace weighs 37.4 gm.

Egypt

E-1.....	\$5,750
E-2.....	\$5,500
E-3.....	\$4,800
E-4.....	\$5,900
E-5.....	\$5,900
E-6.....	\$5,000
E-7.....	\$10,500
E-8.....	\$22,500

