

# Shabti figures



## **What are they? Who owned them?**

Shabti figures are usually shaped like a mummy with their hands crossed.

Very important people may have had a Shabti figure for everyday of the year (365)!

## **What were they used for?**

The figures are usually field workers. They were buried with a dead person, to provide servants to work on the land in the next world.

Some Shabti figures have messages or the names of their owners written on them in hieroglyphs.

## **How were they made?**

The wooden Shabti is made from wood and plaster and painted with natural dyes. It probably dates from around 1000 BC. Wood was scarce in ancient Egypt so some were made from pottery.