

	<p>Object: Tortoise</p> <p>Museum: Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de</p> <p>Collection: Ancient Cultures, Collection Erhart Kästner</p> <p>Inventory number: 1966.59</p>
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Description

Animal figurines were very common in the 5th century BC. They represent votive gifts to the gods or funerary offerings.

The tortoise is often associated with Hermes in his function as shepherd god, as he is said to have invented the lyre from the tortoise shell. But this reptile is also associated with Apollo, who is known as a gifted lyre player. Among other things, Aphrodite is symbolised by the tortoise. According to Pausanias, it was also sacred to Pan (Paus. 8,54,7).

Models for this small turtle can be found in Rhodian models.

Former collection Erhart Kästner, Wolfenbüttel

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Basic data

Material/Technique:	Clay / from the mould (bogy), legs hand-formed
Measurements:	Length: 6.6 cm, Height: 3.1 cm

Events

Created	When	500-450 BC
	Who	
	Where	Attica
Collected	When	

Who Erhart Kästner (1904-1974)

Where

Keywords

- Grave good
- Testudinidae
- Tierfigur

Literature

- Liepmann, Ursula (1975): Griechische Terrakotten, Bronzen, Skulpturen. Hannover, 71 Nr. T 58
- Schepers, Wolfgang (Hrsg.) (2013): Bürgerschätze. Sammeln für Hannover - 125 Jahre Museum August Kestner. Hannover, 146 Nr. XI.8