

Casting Ancient Egyptian Stoneworks

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Stone statues, obelisks, stele and columns created by Ancient Egyptian artisans are beautiful works of art that have survived for millennia. These Egyptian stoneworks are made of granite, diorite, basalt, schist and limestone. Egyptologists claim these statues were carved using copper and iron tools. Current theory holds that dolerite pounders along with copper and iron tools were used to carve granite statues and obelisks which can be over 100 feet tall.



Fig. 1 Detail in Egyptian Sarcophagus

Ancient Egyptian stoneworks contain incredible detail that can contain hair plaits, necklaces, feathers, amulets and other intricate details. In some Egyptian statues, obelisks and columns the images can be deeper than two inches from the surface of the stonework. It seems improbable that Ancient Egyptian stoneworks could be carved using copper and iron chisels to achieve this kind of detail.

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