

# Basic Detail Report

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## Mirror

### Date

206 BCE - 220 CE

### Medium

Bronze

### Description

This object is a bronze mirror from the Han dynasty (206 BCE - 220 CE). Although it may be hard to imagine due to

its current state of oxidation, the smooth reverse side of this object was once polished so finely that one could see their reflection in the bronze. The design on this mirror is commonly referred to as “TLV”, derived from elements resembling those letters, but the original intention is based on a Chinese board game. The knob is set in a quatrefoil surrounded by an inscribed square field. This is surrounded by more of the same motifs as well as the four Directional Spirits. This style of mirror became one of the most popular types of mirrors in the Han dynasty.

### Dimensions

1/4 × 7 5/16 in. (0.6 × 18.6 cm)