

# Scarab Of Death 5e 10lvl

**Scarab of Death 5e 10lvl:** Unlocking the Secrets of a Deadly Artifact in Dungeons & Dragons 5e The **scarab of death 5e 10lvl** is an intriguing and potent magical item that can significantly influence gameplay for characters around level 10. Whether you're a Dungeon Master looking to incorporate a challenging artifact or a player eager to harness its powers, understanding this item's lore, mechanics, and strategic uses is essential. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore everything you need to know about the scarab of death, from its origins and abilities to tactics for maximizing its potential in your campaign.

## What Is a Scarab of Death in D&D 5e?

A scarab of death is a magical, often cursed, object resembling an ancient scarab beetle that grants its wielder formidable powers but at a potential cost. In 5e, such items are typically classified as wondrous items, sometimes with unique properties that can turn the tide of combat or provide crucial utility. This artifact's core theme revolves around death, decay, and undead energies, making it particularly appealing to necromancers, death domain clerics, or adventurers seeking to command undead or wield deathly powers. Its design often reflects ancient Egyptian or other mythological influences, emphasizing the connection to death and the afterlife.

## Origins and Lore of the Scarab of Death

Understanding the background of the scarab of death can enrich your gameplay experience. While specific lore can vary by campaign, common themes include:

### Ancient Beginnings

- Originated in a long-lost civilization known for necromantic practices. - Crafted by powerful liches or death priests seeking to embody death's essence. - Embedded with magical energies that link it to the Shadowfell or the Plane of Death.

### Mythology and Legends

- Rumored to be a fragment of a divine death god's relic, granting control over life and death. - Said to be cursed, bringing misfortune or death to its bearer if misused. - Legends speak of wielders gaining command over undead armies or unleashing deadly curses.

### Modern Use and Discovery

- Found in tombs, cursed ruins, or hidden vaults guarded by deadly traps. - Often sought after by necromancers, warlocks, or adventurers who dare to wield its power.

# Mechanical Properties and Game Mechanics

In D&D 5e, the scarab of death can be represented with specific mechanical properties that influence gameplay. While the exact stats can vary based on campaign design or DM discretion, a typical version might include:

## Common Features

1. **Wondrous Item, Rare or Very Rare:** The rarity depends on its powers and potential curses.
2. **Charges:** Usually has a limited number of charges (e.g., 10 charges), replenished under certain conditions.
3. **Abilities:** Grants the wielder the ability to cast death-themed spells or invoke curses.

## Sample Abilities of the Scarab of Death

1. **Necrotic Command:** As an action, the user can activate the scarab to command undead within a certain radius, such as a 60-foot sphere.
2. **Death Touch:** The scarab can deliver a touch attack that deals necrotic damage, possibly requiring the expenditure of charges.
3. **Cursed Aura:** The bearer becomes resistant to necrotic damage but may suffer drawbacks like reduced hit point maximum or vulnerability to radiant damage.
4. **Resurrection and Undead Control:** The scarab may allow the user to animate skeletons or zombies or even cast animate dead at higher levels.

## Strategies for Using a Scarab of Death at 10th Level

Characters around level 10 are well-positioned to leverage the scarab of death's powers effectively. Here are strategic considerations:

### Maximizing Combat Effectiveness

1. **Command Undead:** Use the scarab to turn the tide by controlling undead minions, creating a formidable undead army to assist in battle.
2. **Necrotic Damage:** Incorporate necrotic spells or touch attacks to weaken enemies resistant to physical damage.
3. **Enhance Defense:** Use its cursed aura or resistances to become more resilient against necromantic or dark magic.

### Synergies with Class Features

- **Necromancer Wizard or Cleric:** Combine the scarab's powers with class spells like animate dead, vampiric touch, or finger of death.
- **Warlocks:** Particularly those with death or shadow patrons, can use the scarab to bolster their eldritch powers.

- **Rogues or Fighters:** Use the scarab's abilities to augment stealth or survivability in dangerous encounters.

## Roleplaying Opportunities

- Embody a necromancer obsessed with death, using the scarab as a symbol of power. - Struggle with the cursed nature of the item, balancing its benefits against potential drawbacks. - Use its lore to deepen your character's backstory, perhaps seeking to lift its curse or unlock its full potential.

## Curses and Risks Associated with the Scarab of Death

Many artifacts of death come with inherent risks. The scarab of death is no exception:

### Potential Curses

1. **Unintended Deaths:** Its curses might cause the user to inadvertently cause deaths or summon unwanted undead.
2. **Corruption:** The cursed aura can gradually corrupt the wielder's morality or mental stability.
3. **Vulnerability to Radiant Damage:** The scarab might make the user more susceptible to radiant effects, which are often effective against undead or necromantic entities.

### Managing Risks

- Regularly perform rituals or use spells to cleanse or suppress curses. - Seek powerful clerics or magical items to mitigate curses. - Balance the use of the scarab's powers with careful roleplaying and decision-making.

## Incorporating the Scarab of Death into Your Campaign

For Dungeon Masters, the scarab of death can serve as a compelling plot device. Here are suggestions to integrate it seamlessly:

### Quest Hooks

1. **The Lost Tomb:** Players discover an ancient tomb containing the scarab guarded by deadly traps and undead guardians.
2. **The Cursed Relic:** An NPC seeks the scarab for its powers but warns of its curse, prompting a moral dilemma.
3. **The Necromancer's Treasure:** An evil necromancer's lair contains the scarab as a centerpiece, offering players a choice to destroy or claim it.

### Balancing Power and Challenge

- Limit its charges or impose conditions for its use to prevent overpowered scenarios. - Introduce consequences for misuse, such as attracting powerful undead or deathly curses. - Use

the scarab to challenge players' morality and decision-making skills.

## Conclusion

The **scarab of death 5e 10lvl** is a versatile and richly thematic magical item that offers both power and peril. Its necromantic abilities can turn the tide of battle, summon undead armies, and deepen roleplaying opportunities. However, its curses and dark origins demand careful handling and strategic use. Whether you're a player seeking to harness its powers or a Dungeon Master weaving it into your narrative, understanding its mechanics, lore, and risks is essential to making the most of this deadly artifact. Embrace the darkness, but do so wisely—your character's fate may depend on it.

Scarab of Death 5e 10lvl is a fascinating magical item that captures the imagination of both Dungeon Masters and players in Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition. Designed for characters around level 10, this artifact presents a unique blend of thematic flair, tactical utility, and narrative potential. Its intricate mechanics and potent abilities make it a compelling addition to any campaign seeking a blend of danger and mystique, especially within the realms of necromancy or ancient curses. In this comprehensive review, we will delve into the origins, mechanics, strategic uses, advantages, disadvantages, and thematic considerations of the Scarab of Death for 5e characters at the 10th level.

## Overview of the Scarab of Death

The Scarab of Death is a powerful magical item inspired by ancient Egyptian mythology and the archetype of death and rebirth. Typically depicted as a finely crafted scarab beetle made of darkened gold or obsidian, the item is imbued with necromantic energies that allow its wielder to manipulate life and death in various ways. Its lore often ties it to long-lost civilizations, curses, and forbidden knowledge, adding rich narrative layers to its use. Designed for characters around level 10, the item balances powerful effects with some inherent risks, making it suitable for parties seeking high-stakes gameplay. It is often found as a treasure in tombs, ancient temples, or bestowed as a reward for completing morally ambiguous quests.

## Mechanical Features and Abilities

The core mechanics of the Scarab of Death revolve around its ability to influence death and undead creation, as well as its potential to serve as both a weapon and a tool for necromantic control.

### Primary Abilities

- **Death Touch (Recharge 5-6):** Once per long rest, the wielder can activate the scarab to deliver a necrotic touch attack. This attack deals 4d8 necrotic damage on a hit, and the target must succeed on a Constitution saving throw (DC 16) or be reduced to 0 hit points. Creatures immune to necrotic damage or those with legendary resistances may resist this effect.
- **Reanimate Dead (Passive):** The scarab allows the user to animate up to 3 corpses within 30 feet as skeletons or zombies, which last for 1 hour or until destroyed. The control is limited to the wielder and can

be used once per long rest. - Necromantic Aura: While attuned to the scarab, the wielder gains a +2 bonus to spell attack rolls and spell save DCs when casting necromancy spells. - Cursed Binding: The scarab is cursed; once attuned to it, the user cannot remove the item unless they succeed on a remove curse spell or similar magic. Removing the scarab causes it to explode in a burst of necromantic energy, dealing 6d6 necrotic damage to all creatures within 20 feet.

## **Additional Features**

- Undead Summoning: Once per day, the wielder can summon a powerful undead creature, such as a Wight or Wraith, depending on their spellcasting ability and level. The summoned creature obeys commands for up to 1 hour. - Death Ward: The scarab grants a once-per-day death ward effect, protecting the wielder from being reduced to 0 hit points once, after which the effect is expended.

## **Strategic and Tactical Considerations**

The Scarab of Death offers versatile options for characters at level 10, especially those specializing in necromancy, warlocks, or spellcasters with necromancy spells. Its abilities lend themselves to both offensive and control strategies.

## **Combat Utility**

- The Death Touch attack is a potent single-target damage dealer, capable of finishing off weakened foes or dealing significant damage to high-value enemies. - Reanimate Dead provides battlefield control and additional combatants, allowing the party to turn corpses into allies temporarily. - The undead summoning ability can be a game-changer by summoning formidable enemies to distract or threaten opponents. - The Necromantic Aura enhances spellcasting effectiveness, making necromancy spells more reliable and potent.

## **Narrative and Roleplaying Opportunities**

- The cursed nature of the scarab offers rich story hooks, such as the risk of corruption or the need to seek a cure. - Its ancient origins allow for integration into campaigns involving lost civilizations, forbidden knowledge, or undead lore. - The ability to animate the dead can be used ethically or unethically, depending on the party's moral stance, adding depth to roleplaying.

## **Synergies with Class Features**

- Spellcasters like Wizards, Clerics, and Warlocks can maximize the scarab's potential with necromancy spells. - Paladins or Fighters who focus on death or darkness themes might find thematic resonance in wielding such an artifact. - Multi-classing into necromancy-focused classes enhances the utility and thematic cohesion.

# Pros and Cons of the Scarab of Death

Pros: - High Damage Potential: The Death Touch provides a reliable source of necrotic damage, especially effective against foes vulnerable to necrotic effects. - Summoning Capabilities: Reanimating corpses and summoning undead can turn the tide of battle, providing additional allies and tactical options. - Enhances Necromancy Spells: The aura boosts spellcasting effectiveness, making necromancy spells more impactful. - Thematic Richness: Ties into dark, mysterious lore, perfect for campaigns with horror or undead themes. - Limited Uses and Recharge: Adds a sense of resource management and strategic timing to its use. Cons: - Cursed Item: The curse prevents easy removal, risking unintended consequences or ongoing necromantic influence. - Recharge Reliance: Abilities like Death Touch require a 5-6 roll, limiting frequency and encouraging timing deliberation. - Potential for Unintended Outcomes: Summoning powerful undead or reanimating bodies can lead to unforeseen complications or moral dilemmas. - Vulnerability to Dispel or Anti-Magic: Its necromantic effects can be nullified by spells or items that suppress magic. - Alignment and Ethical Concerns: Using undead and necromancy may conflict with party morals or campaign themes.

## Thematic and Narrative Implications

The Scarab of Death is more than just a tool; it embodies themes of mortality, immortality, and the corrupting allure of necromantic power. Its design invites narrative exploration, such as uncovering its ancient origins, dealing with the curse's influence, or confronting the moral dilemmas of undead manipulation. Campaigns centered around ancient civilizations, cursed artifacts, or forbidden knowledge can weave the scarab seamlessly into the story. Its presence can drive plotlines involving necromancer rivals, undead outbreaks, or divine curses. Roleplaying the wielder involves balancing the power gained against the curse's toll. Does the character embrace the dark powers, or seek to break free from the scarab's influence? Such questions add depth and complexity to character development.

## Conclusion and Final Thoughts

The Scarab of Death 5e 10lvl stands out as a compelling artifact for mid-level adventurers seeking to delve into necromantic arts or dark themes. Its mechanics offer powerful offensive and control options, while its narrative potential enriches any campaign. However, its cursed nature and reliance on luck for recharge introduce risks that can lead to dramatic moments or unintended consequences. For players and Dungeon Masters alike, the scarab provides a versatile, thematically rich, and mechanically interesting item that can serve as a centerpiece of a campaign's story arc or as a powerful treasure for those brave enough to wield its dark powers. Proper management of its curse, strategic timing of its abilities, and thoughtful integration into the story are key to maximizing its potential and ensuring an engaging experience. In summary, the Scarab of Death is an excellent choice for characters around 10th level who are prepared to harness its necromantic power responsibly—if such a thing is possible—while embracing the dark allure of death and undeath. Its unique blend of mechanics and lore makes it a memorable addition to any D&D 5e campaign.

## Questions & Answers About scarab of death 5e 10lvl

| N<br>o | Question                                                                                                                    | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1      | What is the Scarab of Death in D&D 5e, and how does it function at level 10?                                                | The Scarab of Death is a powerful magical artifact or creature often used as a formidable enemy or item in D&D 5e. At level 10, it typically functions as a challenging encounter with abilities such as deadly attacks, necrotic damage, and special defenses that make it a significant threat to adventurers.   |
| 2      | How can players effectively defeat a Scarab of Death at 10th level?                                                         | Players should focus on exploiting its vulnerabilities, such as its weakness to radiant damage or specific immunities. Coordinated attacks, protective spells like Shield or Counterspell, and strategic positioning are key. Using abilities that remove or weaken its defenses can turn the tide in their favor. |
| 3      | What are the typical loot and rewards for defeating a Scarab of Death at level 10?                                          | Defeating a Scarab of Death often yields valuable items like necromantic artifacts, rare gems, or enchanted equipment. Additionally, characters might gain experience points, unique magical scrolls, or lore-related clues that assist in future adventures.                                                      |
| 4      | Can the Scarab of Death be used as a recurring enemy or boss in a campaign at level 10?                                     | Yes, the Scarab of Death can serve as a recurring boss or major antagonist, especially in campaigns with themes of necromancy or ancient curses. Its formidable nature makes it a memorable challenge for 10th-level parties.                                                                                      |
| 5      | Are there any specific spells or strategies recommended for a 10th-level party facing the Scarab of Death?                  | Spells like Dispel Magic, Revivify, or Protection from Evil and Good are useful. Strategies include focusing fire, utilizing area control spells, and leveraging the party's highest damage-dealing resources. Preparedness for necrotic damage and status effects is essential.                                   |
| 6      | Is the Scarab of Death suitable for homebrew campaigns, and how can Dungeon Masters customize it for 10th-level characters? | Absolutely, the Scarab of Death is versatile for homebrew content. DMs can adjust its hit points, abilities, or add unique mechanics to match the party's power level, ensuring a challenging but balanced encounter for 10th-level characters.                                                                    |

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