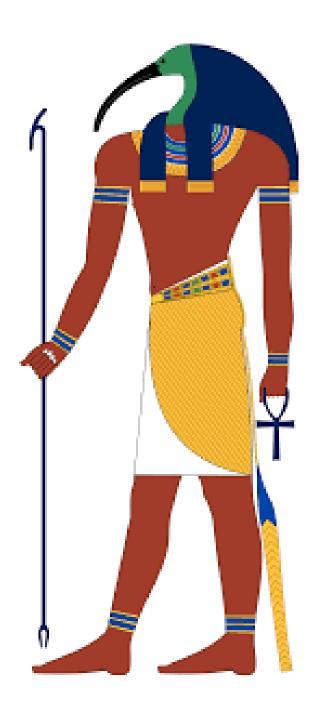
THOTH

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While <u>Thoth</u>, the ancient Egyptian god of knowledge, writing, and magic, isn't directly represented by a single symbol, his complex nature is often conveyed through various interconnected icons. Here's a breakdown of the key ones:

1. Ibis and Baboon: Thoth is most commonly depicted with the head of an **ibis**, a long-beaked wading bird. The curved beak resembled the crescent moon, linking him to lunar cycles and their association with knowledge and writing. Sometimes, he appears as a **baboon**, another animal linked to wisdom and the written word.

2. Moon Crescent and Crown: The **crescent moon** itself is a symbol of Thoth, often adorning his head or appearing in his hand. It reinforces his connection to the moon and its perceived influence on knowledge and magic. Additionally, he might wear a special **crown** incorporating the moon crescent, signifying his divine status and intellectual power.

3. Scribal Tools: Objects like a **palette and stylus** represent Thoth's role as the inventor of writing and record-keeping. These tools highlight his association with communication, education, and the preservation of knowledge.

4. Ankh: Thoth is frequently depicted holding the **ankh**, the ancient Egyptian symbol for life. This emphasizes his role as a giver of knowledge, which was seen as essential for achieving eternal life in the afterlife.

Remember: These <u>symbols</u> often appear together, forming a richer representation of Thoth's multifaceted nature. Understanding their individual and combined meanings provides a deeper appreciation of this fascinating deity's role in Egyptian mythology and its enduring influence on human imagination.