



## Medieval Seal - Ancient Armorial Seal Matrix - Early Period - Sigillography

150 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze



### Description

15th century Western Europe. Ancient copper alloy seal matrix, circular in shape, engraved in intaglio. The field is occupied by a coat of arms with an archaic composition, structured as a multi-blazon, characteristic of the late Middle Ages. The shield is divided into several distinct quarters, each containing different stylized heraldic charges. One of the quarters is charged with a raised dexter hand, pointing towards a star in chief. Another quarter displays three crescents, arranged regularly. A third quarter is decorated with clearly marked oblique bands. A final quarter is charged with three bezants or torteaux, arranged in a triangle. The whole design reflects a heraldic vocabulary that is still fully medieval, predating the more codified compositions of the modern era. The shield is inscribed within a

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Maussane-les-Alpilles 13520

circular legend in old capitals, now partially legible but unidentified. The inscription remains to be studied and attributed; no interpretation or reconstruction has been proposed at this stage. Its design and script are in keeping with the seal-making tradition of the late Middle Ages. The reverse features a one-piece handle cast as a single unit with the die. An old perforation is visible, indicating that it was suspended or frequently used, possibly attached to a key ring or worn on a belt, a practice attested to for medieval personal seals. The engraving is deep and clear, with even wear on the field and edges, attesting to actual and prolonged use. The patina is old, dense, and nuanced, with brown-green tones characteristic of early copper alloys. This type of die was intended for the authentication of private or semi-official documents, at a time when the seal was an essential element of legal validation and personal identification. Condition: Very fine old patina, consistent wear from use, no structural damage. Dimensions: Total height: 4 cm. Shipping: Exclusively via DHL Express, secure packaging, tracking, and insurance.