Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

G & J Lines Brothers 19th-Century Wooden Rocking Horse

£1,950

Emmett & White Ltd
Cross House, Waterloo Square, Alfriston, East Sussex BN26 5UD
01323 870 595 • info@emmettandwhite.com • emmettandwhite.com

REF: 7248

Height: 114 cm (44.9")

Width: 133 cm (52.4")

Depth: 38 cm (15")

Description

A wonderfully weathered 19th-century painted wooden rocking horse by the celebrated London makers G & J Lines Brothers. Retaining the patina and honest wear that only age and use can create, this evocative survivor has all the character expected of a cherished Victorian nursery toy.

Beautifully modelled with a spirited profile, the horse is mounted on its original-style rocking base and retains a gently timeworn painted surface. The softened finish, signs of use, and aged character give it an authenticity that cannot be recreated, while its strong silhouette and hand-finished construction make it equally compelling as a decorative object. Far more than a children's toy, it is a piece of Victorian craftsmanship with real presence.

G & J Lines was founded by brothers George and Joseph Lines, and became one of the best-known British makers of wooden rocking horses and traditional toys during the later 19th century. Working from London, the firm was admired for the quality of its carved and painted horses, which ranged from simple nursery models to more elaborate examples made for a prosperous Victorian clientele.

The Lines family name would later become associated with Lines Bros Ltd and the Tri-ang brand, but this horse belongs to the earlier tradition of hand-crafted wooden toys for which G & J Lines is most admired. Its characterful condition offers a tangible link to that period, preserving the warmth, playfulness, and workmanship of the Victorian nursery.

A charming and highly decorative piece for a child's room, library, country house interior, or collector's display. It would appeal to collectors of antique toys, rocking horses, Victorian childhood memorabilia, and English decorative arts.

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