

Small marble mortar

£65



REF: 7458

Height: 13 cm (5.1")

Diameter: 12 cm (4.7")

Description

Early 19th century marble household mortar on a raised pedestal base, circa 1800.

Marble mortars have been used for thousands of years, dating back to ancient civilisations such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

Craftsmen valued marble for its hardness, durability, and smooth surface, which made it ideal for grinding herbs, spices, and medicines. In classical times, physicians and apothecaries relied on marble mortars to prepare remedies and powders.

During the Middle Ages, they remained essential in kitchens and early laboratories. Advances in quarrying and carving improved their quality and design.

Today, marble mortars continue to be valued both for practical use and as traditional tools reflecting centuries of culinary and medicinal practice worldwide.