

19th century desktop magnifier

£195



REF: 7096

Height: 12 cm (4.7")

Width: 14 cm (5.5")

Diameter: 5.5 cm (2.2")

Description

A small 19th century pivoting bar adjustable desktop magnifying glass with original lens.

Antique desktop magnifiers are charming tools that combine functionality with timeless design. Popular during the 19th and early 20th centuries, they were often crafted with brass, wood, or glass, and used by scholars, jewellers, and collectors to examine fine details.

Unlike handheld versions, these magnifiers rested on a desk with adjustable stands, making them practical for prolonged use. Some featured ornate engravings or decorative bases, reflecting the craftsmanship of their era.

Today, antique magnifiers are admired not only as useful instruments but also as collectible pieces of history, valued for their aesthetic appeal and connection to past intellectual pursuits.