

Victorian silver plate chamber stick

Sold



Description

A Victorian silver plate chamber stick with ornate cast decoration, complete with its snuffer, circa 1880.

Chamber sticks, also known as chamber candlesticks or bedchamber candlesticks, have a history dating back to the 17th century. These portable candle holders were designed for carrying a single candle, typically with a wide base and a handle or finger loop for easy transport. The design allowed individuals to safely navigate dark interiors, especially when going to bed, hence the name "chamber stick."

Made from materials like brass, silver, or pewter, chamber sticks often included a snuffer attached to the handle, allowing the flame to be easily extinguished. Their simple yet functional design became an essential household item in pre-electricity times.

Over time, chamber sticks became more ornate, reflecting the tastes and social status of their owners. By the 19th century, they were both practical items and decorative pieces, often featured in well-appointed bedrooms and parlours. Today, they are cherished as antiques, representing an era when candlelight was the primary source of illumination in homes.