Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

19th-Century Brass Cross Door Porter

£175

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REF: 4386

Height: 30 cm (11.8")

Width: 14 cm (5.5")

Depth: 7 cm (2.8")

Description

An unusual and striking 19th-century door porter, formed as a substantial brass cross mounted on a cast-iron base. Both decorative and practical, this impressive object was designed to hold a door securely open while introducing a strong Gothic or ecclesiastical note to an interior.

The tall brass cross has a clear, architectural silhouette, its warm polished surface contrasting beautifully with the dark, weighty cast-iron base below. The base retains its foundry marks, adding an appealing industrial and historical detail and reinforcing the piece's original purpose as a durable domestic furnishing. Together, the brass and iron create an object of considerable visual presence, combining the ornament of the Victorian period with the robust engineering of traditional foundry work.

Door porters were essential features in 19th-century houses, public buildings, churches, and institutions, where their weight made them especially effective for holding open heavy doors. This example is distinguished by its unusual cross form, which gives it a far more sculptural and evocative character than the more familiar animal, floral, or utilitarian designs.

Now equally compelling as a decorative object, it would make an impressive addition to a hallway, library, entrance, or Gothic-inspired interior. It would also appeal to collectors of antique door furniture, ecclesiastical objects, Victorian cast iron, and unusual 19th-century decorative arts.

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