

19th century pill roller

£275



REF: 6521

Height: 5 cm (2")

Width: 20 cm (7.9")

Depth: 35 cm (13.8")

Description

A fine quality mahogany and brass 19th century apothecary pill roller with an unusual marble plate, circa 1860.

Pill rollers are fascinating historical tools used by pharmacists in the 18th and 19th centuries to handcraft pills. These devices typically consisted of wooden or metal plates with grooves and a matching roller.

Pharmacists would mix powdered medications with binding agents, roll the mixture into uniform strands, and cut them into precise pill sizes. Pill rollers showcase the craftsmanship and ingenuity of early pharmaceutical practices, offering insight into the evolution of modern drug manufacturing techniques.