

Large London Silver Fusee Pocket Watch with Fob Chain and Key,
1851

£325



Description

A handsome large silver-cased fusee pocket watch, hallmarked in London in 1851, complete with its silver fob chain and winding key. An impressive example of mid-19th-century English watchmaking, it combines the substantial presence of a generously proportioned case with the mechanical sophistication of the traditional fusee movement.

The watch is powered by a key-wound fusee movement, a finely engineered system developed to maintain more even force from the mainspring as it unwinds. A delicately linked chain runs around a cone-shaped fusee, helping the movement to deliver time more consistently. By the middle of the 19th century, this mechanism was already admired as a mark of quality and craftsmanship, and it remains one of the most evocative features of an antique English pocket watch.

Its silver case has the solid, reassuring weight and restrained elegance typical of Victorian gentlemen's watches. The accompanying silver fob chain provides a fitting period complement, allowing the watch to be worn traditionally from a waistcoat or displayed as a complete and attractive ensemble. The original-style winding key adds a further layer of authenticity and interest, recalling the daily ritual of winding and setting the watch by hand.

Dated 1851, this is a particularly appealing object from the heart of the Victorian period: both a practical instrument and a finely made personal possession. It would make a distinguished addition to a collection of antique watches, horological objects, or Victorian silver, and is equally suited as a thoughtful gift for a collector or enthusiast.