

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Victorian glass & silver inkwell

Frederick Hewson

Sold



REF: 3043

Height: 95 mm (3.74")

Diameter: 114 mm (4.49")

Description

Simple antique glass inkwell with sharply cut hobnail pattern glass base and fitted with a sterling silver collar and lid. The interior of the lid is gilded. This stylish desk accessory has a wonderful hefty feel and would make an ideal paperweight.

In 16th century Europe writing was considered to be a lowly task, and the aristocracy and upper classes would employ the services of a scribe or scrivener to write on their behalf using a quill pen and ink.

From the 17th century onwards, as the gentry began to undertake writing themselves, inkwells and inkstands became an essential accessory in every upper-class household. Silver, often combined with glass or crystal, was the most popular material used for inkstands and as well as having a practical use, some became more imposing and elaborate, often turning into decorative pieces in their own right.