

Antique silver cockerel model
Edwin Thompson Bryant

Sold



REF: 8024

Height: 205 mm (8.07")

Width: 180 mm (7.09")

Depth: 50 mm (1.97")

Weight: 317 g

Description

This charming sterling silver model of a strutting chicken or cockerel is hand chased with a feather-effect decoration while the tail feathers are hand-cut to give an interesting and lifelike appearance. Its head is hinged and finished with inset glass eyes.

This fine fowl was made in Germany and bears English import hallmarks for 1891 by Edwin Thompspon Bryant, a known importer of Hanau silverware. As a means of avoiding import duties, from the late 18th century and into the 20th, there was a high tax on luxury goods imported into Britain, but if an item could be classified as a useful piece it could be brought into the country without duty. Silver animal and bird models were often made with removable heads so they could be described as containers or boxes.