

8" George II style square silver salver

William Hutton & Sons

Sold



REF: 5749 Width: 205 mm (8.07") Depth: 205 mm (8.07") Weight: 462 kg

Description

George II style silver salver with an applied thread pattern border and supports; a style that would have been popular in the mid 18th century. The plain silver surface is perfect for engraving.

The serving tray as we know it today is an evolution of the salver, which was a term used in England from the mid-seventeenth century to denote a flat tray without handles, usually made of silver. Some salver designs feature supporting feet - usually three or four.

The word derives from the Latin salvare meaning to save. Originally, food or drink intended for royalty would be initially tasted by a servant for signs of poison before it reached the royal top table. Being served on the salver indicated that this process had taken place and the food and drink was now fit for a king.

Salvers later became commonplace in aristocratic and wealthy homes and Samuel Pepys is recorded as an owner of a salver, signifying his high social standing.