



Jaques Staunton Chess Set, With Folding Board

John Jaques

£2,400



REF: 30092

Height: 13 cm (5.1")

Width: 14.5 cm (5.7")

Depth: 24 cm (9.4")

Description

Antique 4 inch Jaques, Staunton Chess Figures.

A Staunton chess set with Ebony and Boxwood chess pieces with wide turned and carved pieces. With weighted bases for added stability, the set comes with a folding board. The underside of each chess piece being covered with felt allowing the pieces to slide more easily across the chess board. The chess set comprises of thirty-two pieces, four Knights featuring the head and neck of a horse. Two kings, being the tallest pieces at 10 cm high, both with a crown topped with a cross whilst the two Queens feature a coronet topped with a tiny ball (8 ½ cm high). The four Rooks are towers (castles) with a crenelation top and the four Bishops with mitres. The sixteen Pawns are the smallest pieces at 5.3 cm high and are topped by a plain ball. All the pieces with a collar except the rooks and knights, with a single Rook and Knight from each side stamped with a red crown.

The antique oak dovetailed box with sliding lid in original condition but may not be the original box to the set.

Size shown is for the oak storage box.

Staunton chess sets were first made available by Jaques to the general public on 29th September 1849 and quickly became the standard style. The journalist Nathaniel Cooke (editor for the Illustrated London News) had registered his design earlier that year at the Patent Office on 1 March and named the style after the leading English chess master at the time, Howard Staunton. Staunton published chess articles for the Illustrated London News and was asked to endorse the chess sets by Cooke. The first 500 Jaques sets were numbered and hand-signed by Staunton who promoted the product for Jaques and ridiculed and disrespected all other designs of chessmen.