

Basic Detail Report



Protective-Charm

Date

1870-1917

Primary Maker

Edward Lovett

Medium

Plastic beads, string, textile

Description

Heart-shaped pincushion carried by sailors as a charm against death by drowning. Storms were considered the work of witches. Real cow or sheep hearts pierced with nails were used as a charm against witches; the pin cushion is a survival of this custom and was carried as a substitute for a real heart. Acquired from the London docks.

Dimensions

Object/Work: 80 x 80 x 40 mm