

## VICTORIAN MYSTERY OBJECTS

Below are some everyday objects from the Victorian period. See if you can guess what they are- perhaps and adult can give you some clues? (The answers are on the next page- so no peeking!)

You can find any more examples of Victorian objects on our collections website? Which is your favourite?

<https://www.culturenlmuseums.co.uk/SIModes/victorian/>



### Detachable Shirt Collar

Shirt collars were often detachable as the style was for very stiff collars. The collars would be unfastened from the shirts after washing and soaked in a starch solution until nearly dry, then ironed until they were hard. They would then be curled using a collar press.

### Butter Pats

These were used in Victorian times to shape butter into bricks and would have been owned by most rural households as making butter was a great way to use up milk. The inside is serrated to grip the butter and squeeze out any excess water.

### Mushroom Darner

Darning is a traditional method of fixing holes in clothes that are not along a seam and where patching would be uncomfortable for the wearer, such as on a sock. Tools, such as a mushroom darner, were often used to stretch the fabric, making the sewing easier. The sock would be stretched over the head and pulled tightly around the handle to hold the fabric in place.

### Finger Stocks

Finger stocks were used by teachers to correct bad behaviour. If they spotted you fidgeting, or worse, picking your nose, they would fasten your fingers in the stocks tightly behind your back, until you learned your lesson.



### Victorian Coins

These penny coins have Queen Victoria on the obverse and Britannia on the reverse. The older coins from 1880 and 1889 have a younger looking portrait of Queen Victoria. In 1890 the Queen looked much older and the image on the coins were changed.

