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Antique oil lamp identification

The following information is designed to show some of the differences and similarities between lamp burners used for various fuels and should allow the reader to more accurately identify a particular burner. Whale Oil Burner Liquid Burner Prong burner burner coronet burner burner burner burner burner Argand Burner Central Air current Burner Whale oil burner Whale oil burner usually consists of one or two tubes made of tin placed in a base of brass, tin or tin. They can be threaded (designed to screw into collars), or drop-in (usually on a box and/or cork disc). Whale oil burners typically have a large part of the wick tube that extends down into the oil source. Because the whale oil was quite thick, especially at cold temperatures, this design helped transfer heat from the flame to liquefy the oil. Thus, it was easier established the wick. The wick adjustments are usually made by round holes or cracked in the wick tube with a pickwick. The first whale oil lamps often had coarsely threaded burners and tin collars. As advances were made, more burners were made of brass and threading benifying more and more fine. Because the tin is so soft, you have to be careful not to cross these old burners or force them on a necklace with wires of different size. Burning Fluid Burner The burner of a lamp using burning liquid, or camphene, is distinguished by the presence of conical wick tubes extending upwards at a remote angle of the lamp. Although sometimes found with a single tube of wick, they are most often found with two, and sometimes even with three or four (quite rare) or six (rare). The burning fluid was very volatile and this design transferred heat away from the fuel (unlike the design of a whale oil burner). These burners most often had plugs attached to small chains to extinguish the flame and prevent fluid evaporation when not in use (as seen in the image). The fluid burners were almost always made of brass and had a threaded base. The strands were adjusted by choosing from the opening of the wick tube. They have no holes or cracks like whale oil burner tubes. The tooth burner (kerosene) There are two main classifications for burners that relate to how the chimney is held on the burner. These are the prong and coronet styles. Another classification of kerosene burners refers to how air is fed to flame. Everyone is Below. This is a familiar burner style whereby four distinct teeth extending upwards are designed to hold the chimney in place. Although there are countless variations of the tooth burner, the style generally incorporates stylized or embossed brass teeth that grab the right sides of the chimney. Basically, the chimney is held by friction. The chimney style corresponding to this burner style is called a slip fireplace. It has straight sides (flat and parallel) near the base and can be slipped in or out The burner. The coronet burner (kerosene) The coronet-style burner takes two distinct forms. A shape is characterized by a circular gallery designed to hold a sliding chimney. The other also by a circular gallery, but in this case, the chimney is not held by friction, but by mechanical means. Coronet burners are mentioned in many terms, including lip, screw, bridle and lock-on-burner. The type of chimney for this style burner has a flared base that usually slides under one or two tabs on one side of the burner, and is then fixed to the opposite side by mechanical means. This style of chimney attachment takes many forms. The most common variations include a set screw (shown on the right), a wire spring clip, or a solid brass clip (Jones burner). A fourth variant is by a spring pin, similar in the design of the screw set - the Vankirk burner on the left. Many of these burners have an articulated gallery that allows the top of the burner (with the chimney still attached) to be returned to light or to cut the wick. Others are designed to allow the gallery part of the burner (also with chimney still attached) to be lifted from the base of the burner to accomplish the same tasks. Argand Argand (kerosene) burners apply the principle of increasing air supply through a central tube surrounded by a round wick. The tube allows the burning air to enter the burner, usually from the sides, and move through the opening into the round wick. This burner is designed to fit any lamp source - it doesn't require a central project tube down through the source like the next burner. The central air current burner (kerosene) The Central Draft burner is characterized by a central air intake tube surrounded by a circular wick (similar in design to the Argand burner). The combustion air is provided by a series of holes or punctures in the sides and top of the burner as well as by the central tube (from the bottom of the lamp or the fount). This extra air is usually deflected outwards towards the flame by a perforated dehim or a spur of flames. The antique oil lamp identification can be a bit tricky, considering that there are many antique reproduction lamps on the market. Oil lamps have been the main source of light in many homes before electricity, and they have a beautiful style that is prized by today's collectors. Learn if an oil lamp is antique and how to identify different types of oil lamps and kerosene. The difference between oil lamps and kerosene is minimal; lamp oil is simply a cleaner burning fuel that serves the same purpose as kerosene. It is important to note that you should always choose fuels approved for lamps, as not all types of oil and kerosene are appropriate. Although these lamps come in many different styles, most oil and kerosene lamps have a basic formula that hasn't changed much over the years. These are the parts of Oil lamp: Tank or bowl - These lamps use a tank or bowl to hold fuel. There will be a way to fill this tank. Burner - This part of the lamp sits above the tank and has an adjustable wick that extends down into the bowl. The wick absorbs fuel. Chimney - This glass protector contains the flame of the lamp. In some lamps, there is also a shadow. Related Articles How can you know if an oil lamp is antique? Because oil lamps are beautiful and still useful today, many companies create modern reproductions. This may make ancient kerosene lamp identification challenging, but according to Real or Repro, there are several clues that can help you tell an antique oil lamp of a modern room. Use a Blacklight Keep a black light next to the lamp in a dark room. The new oil lamps are held together with glue, and new fluoresces of glue in black light. Old lamps have glass parts that are fused, so they don't shine in black light. Examining the material Although this is not an infallible method of ancient kerosene lamp identification, the material may offer a clue as to whether a lamp is new or old. Check to see if the bolts are threaded along their entire length or only the part needed to attach the parts of the lamp. A fully threaded bolt is more likely to be new. Check for plaster While many new lamps use material that looks a lot like the original pieces and can even be made of the same molds, how the material is attached will differ between new old lamps. The new lamps use glue, while many older lamps use plaster to fill all the spaces between the lamp's body and the material. Look carefully at these seals to see if they contain plaster. Important Factors in Identifying Ancient Oil Lamps Once you know that your oil lamp is a real antique, there is still work to be done to learn more about it. These are some factors to consider when identifying the age and manufacturer of your antique oil lamp. Ancient kerosene and oil lamps come in many different styles and types. Knowing the style of your lamp can help you determine if it was made by a specific manufacturer or at a certain time. You can have one of the following: Antique oil lamps with handles - Some lamps have been designed to be transported around the house or property. You can identify this type of lamp by its transport handle or its finger. Hanging antique oil lamps - Other lamps have a loop to hang from a nail or on a wall. This loop allows the lamp to hang the level. Ancient kerosene table lamps - Table lamps vary in size, but they have a wider base that allows them to sit on a table. Ancient Wall Lamps - Wall lamps often have a reflector that sits against the wall and reflect the light in the room. Lamps with shades - Some lamps have shades of glass that add to their beauty and value. Types of lamp burners According to The Lamp Works, there are six types of oil lamp burners. Being able to identify the burner lets you know what type of fuel your lamp is using, how old it may be, and other helpful tips. Here are the six types of oil lamp burners: Prong Burners - Used with kerosene and oil lamps, these burners have four teeth that hold the glass fireplace in place. Coronet Burners - Also used with kerosene and oil lamps, these burners have a piece of coronet or crown-shaped material that holds the chimney. Argand Burners - This type of burner had many holes to allow air to circulate and facilitate combustion. Central Burners - Similar to an Argand burner, this type of burner allowed for greater air circulation, this time through an intake tube in the center and a perforated metal surface. Whale oil burners - These burners had two long tubes that held the wick and extended down into the tank, allowing the heat of the lamp to melt the whale oil. Burning Fluid Burners - In these burners, the tubes extend upwards and upwards from a plate. The tubes are usually made of brass. Colors of antique oil lamps Although many lamps are made of clear glass, you will also see them in a series of beautiful colors. It is important to note that this is another way to determine if your lamp is actually an antique. Some specific patterns have only come in light or certain colors, so if you see one in a color that hasn't been produced, you know it's a reproduction. These are some of the colors of real antique oil lamps: Green glass Light glass Amber Glass White milk glass Amethyst Glass Red Glass Cobalt Glass Oil Oil Marks An essential tool to learn how to identify antique oil lamps is to know where to find the manufacturer's brands. Like many antiques, identification marks can be one of the best ways to tell what you have and how old it is. You can find glass identification marks on the lamp, but the burner material is the place to find real answers. On oil lamps, the marks are usually on the button that allows you to wind the wick. The end of this button usually has a stamp. According to Old Copper, these are some of the most notable: Aladdin - This brand has used different manufacturer brands, but they almost always say Aladdin somewhere in them. Beacon Light - For this brand, you will often see the name in block letters inside a circle. Erich and Graetz - The brand of this unique manufacturer presents two dragons face to face. Rochester Lamp Company - New York-based company stamped its lamp wind buttons with Rochester or New Rochester. Oil lamp patent numbers and dates An excellent way to establish the history of your antique oil lamp is by finding a patent number or date. It's usually on the winder button, but it could also be in the other place on the burner or the base of your lamp. When you find a number of a lamp made in the United States, look for it at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. This can tell you how old your oil lamp may be. Comment Comment Say if an oil lamp is valuable Most antique oil lamps sell for between \$25 and \$150, but some examples can be particularly valuable. Lamps with cut crystal shades, beautiful details, unusual colors, and other features can bring the most to auction. In addition, lamps in excellent condition will almost always sell for more than those with missing parts, cracks, and other damage. The best way to tell if an oil lamp is valuable is to compare it to recently sold lamps that are similar. Here are some examples of recent sales: Enjoy the beauty of antique oil lamps Sometimes the best way to identify an antique is to look at photos of similar items. You can see pictures of antique oil lamps to see some of the styles, colors and brands mentioned here. You can also search for different types of antique lamps to see if yours is among them. Learn more about your antique oil lamp allows you to enjoy even more of its beauty. More.

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