Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Late 19th century ivorine dominoes

Sold

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REF: 6812

Description

A complete set of 28 late 19th century ivorine dominoes in their original wooden box.

Dominoes originated in China around the 12th century, where they were made from materials like ivory or bone. The game spread to Europe in the 18th century, particularly gaining popularity in Italy. Chinese dominoes differed from modern Western sets, as they represented all possible outcomes of a pair of dice, without blank faces.

European versions introduced blanks, leading to the standard double-six set commonly used today. Initially, dominoes were enjoyed by nobility but gradually became popular among common folk. The name "domino" is derived from the resemblance of the game's black and white tiles to Venetian carnival masks called "domini."

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