

Mounted specimen lettuce coral

£145



REF: 7501

Height: 12 cm (4.7")

Width: 16 cm (6.3")

Depth: 16 cm (6.3")

## Description

An antique specimen lettuce coral later mounted on a marble stand.

Dimension refer to the size of the actual coral excluding the mount.

Coral specimens have long been collected for scientific study, education, and decorative display. Formed by colonies of tiny marine animals called polyps, coral creates intricate calcium carbonate skeletons that remain after the living tissue dies.

Dried coral specimens reveal remarkable natural patterns, textures, and branching structures shaped by ocean environments over many years. During the nineteenth century, coral displays were common in curiosity cabinets and natural history collections.

Today, antique and legally sourced specimens are appreciated for their beauty and educational value. Modern conservation efforts encourage responsible collecting practices because many coral reefs worldwide are threatened by climate change, pollution, and habitat destruction.