

18TH CENTURY FRENCH LOUIS XV CARVED WALNUT AND CANE COMMODE CHAIR

$1,400

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Combining the graceful curves of Louis XV furniture with an ingenious practical design, this antique French commode chair is a distinctive example of 18th-century craftsmanship. Crafted in France circa 1760, the chair, also known as a chaise percée, features a richly patinated walnut frame, decorative carvings, and a caned seat and backrest.

The tall, gently arched back is framed by molded walnut supports and crowned with a carved foliate motif. Its woven cane panel provides a light, airy appearance, while the open section beneath the backrest adds to the chair's graceful silhouette. The serpentine front and shaped side panels are decorated with carved scrollwork and floral motifs characteristic of the Louis XV Rococo style.

The chair stands on four short cabriole legs ending in delicate scroll feet. The seat is fitted with woven cane and cleverly hinged to lift upward, revealing a concealed circular opening for a chamber pot. A removable round wooden cover closes the opening, allowing the piece to function as a conventional chair when not in use.

Known in France as a chaise percée, this type of furniture was designed to discreetly accommodate personal necessities before the introduction of modern indoor plumbing. Such chairs were often incorporated into bedrooms and private dressing rooms, where their decorative exteriors concealed their utilitarian purpose.

The antique Louis XV commode chair is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, retaining its warm walnut patina, attractive caning, and distinctive period character. Both decorative and historically interesting, this unusual piece would make a fascinating addition to a collection of French antique furniture or a traditional bedroom or dressing room.

Dimensions: 19.5" W x 17" D x 35.5" H.

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