



MID-19TH CENTURY FRENCH POLISHED BRONZE MORTAR WITH ORIGINAL PESTLE

\$750

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This handsome antique mortar and pestle combines substantial weight, sculptural form, and the practical character of traditional French culinary and apothecary wares. Crafted in France circa 1850, the bronze mortar features a gently flared cylindrical body with a broad opening, solid circular base, and a series of pronounced horizontal molded bands that lend the piece a strong architectural profile.

Two opposing knob-form handles project from the sides, balancing the form while recalling the utilitarian design of early working mortars. The piece retains its original 7-inch bronze pestle, shaped with rounded ends and a molded central collar for a secure grip. Both mortar and pestle have been polished, revealing warm golden tones while preserving subtle surface irregularities, oxidation, and traces of age that speak to generations of use.

Originally intended for grinding herbs, spices, medicinal preparations, and other ingredients, this antique mortar now makes an appealing decorative object for a kitchen, library, or collection of early culinary implements. Its compact proportions, rich patina, and bold silhouette give it an especially attractive presence on open shelving or a countertop.

The mortar and pestle are in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, with a rich, time-softened patina throughout.

Dimensions: 5" diameter x 4" H; pestle 7" L.