



OBJECT ID	2001.38.12
OBJECT NAME	Buttonhook
DATE CREATED	1900, 1800 – 1900
MATERIAL	Bone; Steel
OBJECT ENTITIES	Barbatsuly, Peter (collected by) Barbatsuly, Theodore (owned by) Barbatsuly, Peter (is related to)

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Button hook with rounded triangular handle made of bone (marrow markings) and three tiny metal pieces on both sides to hold bone in place. Bone reaches about halfway up the steel where the steel has been cast in a decorative manner.

#### ORIGIN

Elias Howe came up with what he called "an automatic continuous clothing closure" in 1851. It was a further 40 years before another American, Whitcomb Judson, patented a similar "Clasp Locker", but even that was only ever used for fastening shoes, seen from the first time at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. Buttonhooks are as old as buttons themselves but certainly from the mid-Victorian era until just after the First World War. For boots with more than 50 buttons a piece or jackets, waistcoats, gloves, spats and corsets.

#### CITATION

Buttonhook, 1900, 1800 – 1900, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/08/21.