

Victorian Sterling Silver Toast Rack by R, J & J Williams. Exeter  
1850

Robert, James And Josiah Williams

£1,000



## Description

Elegantly crafted Victorian Sterling Silver Toast Rack.  
Makers: Robert, James & Josiah Williams. Exeter 1850.

Attractive and elegant sterling silver rectangular toast rack made in Exeter. The handle has a decorative design which is followed down to floor level by a rod with a ball shape at the base in order to keep the rack steady. This design is echoed on the four feet which stand straight and steady on the table. The rack has seven hoops. The full set of hallmarks and maker's mark are stamped on the reverse of the rack and they are all very crisp and clear.

This would make an excellent generous sized toast rack but nowadays could also be used to hold letters.

Robert Williams & Sons: Was originally established in Bristol by William Woodman (marks c1818 to c1838), the business was then taken over by Robert Williams and in c1845 was partnered by his two sons James and Josiah and began trading as Robert Williams & Sons until c1853.

Only three other major cities London, Birmingham and Sheffield had firms more prolific in the manufacture of silver, the last of the Williams family (Josiah) retired in 1879. The company was also responsible for keeping the Exeter Assay Office busy which closed shortly after in 1882.

Length- 6.7 inches (17cm)

Width - 4.6 inches (11.7cm)

Height-7.4 inches (18.8cm)

Weight- 8.2 troy ounces (255 grams)