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## Wood Figurine of Bear & Barrel of Honey, made in Agidel, Bashkir ASSR, circa 1980s.

The bear stands approx. 6 ½" tall measuring from the plinth. The barrel is 3 ¼" tall with the lid on. The plinth is 6 x 3 x ½". Comes with the original manufacturer's paper tag, glued to the bottom of the plinth. According to the tag naming the item "Bear with Spoon", the figurine is missing the spoon as the hole in its right paw can attest. The barrel has an impressed inscription "Bashkir Honey", in Russian. The alpine meadows of Bashkir ASSR, or Bashkortostan as it is known nowadays, are famous for the quality and fragrance of the honey produced in that area.

In good condition. The missing spoon and the fact that the previous owner used the barrel as an ashtray are the only items of detriment. There is also a faint small doodle in red ballpoint ink but it's barely noticeable.

Agidel is a small young city in Bashkortostan with a short but interesting history. Erected in the 1980s around the construction of the Bashkir Nuclear Power Station, it slid to the brink of failure and stagnation when the environmentalists, scared by the recent catastrophe in Chernobyl, applied enough pressure to have the construction of the NPS stopped. The population of Agidel suddenly lost its main source of employment. This lasted for 3 years, until the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Bashkortostan issued a directive to develop measures of stimulation of employment in the city of Agidel.

Please note that our own teaspoon in the last photo is just for size reference.

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## \$30.00









