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In chrome-plated brass.

Stands approx. 14" tall to the tip of the crown, about 7" at the shoulder, square base approx. 5" across. Maximum capacity 3 liters, (about 0.8 US gallon). Electric specs: 220V, 6A, 1kW. Includes the original 5'-long power cord. The maker's mark "ЗШВ" stands for "Завод «Штамп» им. Ванникова" (the Vannikov "Stamp" Factory"), the city of Tula, about 110 miles south of Moscow. The samovar features a stamped coat of arms above the faucet spout, with the word "TULA" in it. It is covered by the artwork but can be seen from the inside (see our photo).

The samovar is painted in the general style and palette of Russian folk-art. Two escutcheons, in the front and back, depict a cartoonish fairy-tale scene of Russian tea ceremony with a "Дед" (Gramps) and a "Баба" (Granny), the two characters featured in a lot of Russian fairy tales. The rest of the belly, and the lid of the samovar are decorated with floral ornaments.

In good condition. Structurally, the samovar is perfectly sound. Very clean inside. No mineral deposits on the heating elements or around them suggests that the samovar has never been used to boil water. One of the metal arms of the handle to the right of the faucet is slightly bent but this has no impact on the functionality and strength of the handle.

The painted outer surface has suffered quite a bit, showing minor to moderate paint loss all over the samovar. The copper-colored paint seems to have suffered the most, especially on the crown and ring. Maybe the samovar was kept in some adverse environment, or perhaps the technology used to apply this decorative layer was more to impress than to last. Yet, it still presents quite well, and is structurally solid. The black knobs and handle and tight and undamaged, the valve handle fits tightly into the faucet spout, and there is not a single dent to the metal that we could see.

A decorated samovar like this was probably meant as a souvenir for foreign tourists, and it shows in its higher-than-usual price of 47 roubles, stamped on the bottom of the base.

This samovar is perfect for display on a kitchen counter or a dining room buffet. We've even seen these placed dramatically at one end of a recreation room bar or sideboard amongst bottles of wine and vodka.

While this samovar appears to be in perfect working condition, we do not encourage and make absolutely no warranties of its suitability for actual use, even with appropriate electric adapter to the US voltage, amperage and power cord connector. Should you decide to use it for anything other than display, be advised that we accept no liability of any kind of possible injury or property damage.

Please note that the <u>podstakannik</u> and sugar tongs in our last photo are for size reference only.

Item# 41251

\$125.00



















