

Alamo History Trunk Object Cards

Printing Directions: Print page 2-9, double sided, flip on short edge



Explore objects from the 1800s in the printable object task cards from the Alamo History Trunk.

This resource includes images, descriptions, and primary source references for the reproduction items found in the Alamo History Trunk.



The items are organized in four sections:

- Clothing
- Luxury items
- Nourishment
- Tools



Share your questions or feedback by emailing education@thealamo.org



<p>BROGANS (SHOES)</p> <p>Boots were expensive and not always available, so a simple footwear called brogans was worn instead.</p>	<p>FUR HAT</p> <p>Fur hats were made to fit tightly to the head which kept them from blowing off in high winds. They also kept heads warmer in cold weather.</p>	<p>SLOUCH HAT</p> <p>Slouch hats were broad-brimmed and made of soft felt. They were commonly worn due to their ability to be shaped by the wearer.</p>
<p>SEWING KIT</p> <p>When traveling, soldiers repaired their own clothing items. A compact kit would be carried along with their other gear.</p>	<p>BONNET</p> <p>A fashion of the day, bonnets were a necessity for protection against the hot Texas sun.</p>	<p>BELT</p> <p>Clothing was baggy and loose-fitting. A belt was a simple solution that often-held pistols, ammunition, and knives.</p>
<p>APRON</p> <p>Aprons served as protection for important garments that could not be replaced.</p>	<p>FABRIC SWATCHES</p> <p>When Texas was first settled, spinning wheels and looms (used to create fabrics) were difficult to find. Occasionally an individual was able to obtain a small piece of fabric.</p>	<p>HUNTING FROCK</p> <p>Hunting frocks were practical, durable garments often worn in frontier Texas. Most of them would be made from buckskin.</p>



<p>BRICK TEA</p> <p>Brick tea was scraped with a knife and the resulting flakes were boiled. These brings were made to survive travel without spoiling.</p>	<p>HAVERSACK</p> <p>A haversack is a cloth bag with a strap that is used to carry personal items and food.</p>	<p>SKILLET</p> <p>A skillet or frying pan was often the cookware of choice in preparing food. These were usually made of sturdy iron and had a folding handle for portability.</p>
<p>GOURD CANTEEN</p> <p>A gourd canteen is a container created from natural materials that was used to carry water.</p>	<p>TIN PLATE</p> <p>This plate is made from tin, a lightweight and sturdy material. This made it ideal for traveling and portability.</p>	<p>WOODEN BOWL</p> <p>Dishes carved from wood were used both at home and on the road.</p>
<p>EATING UTENSILS</p> <p>The utensils from the 1800s were made from wood, iron, horn, pewter, and silver.</p>	<p>TIN CUP</p> <p>Tin cups had an advantage over horn cups because they could be used as boilers for making coffee, soup, stew, or tea.</p>	<p>HORN CUP & SPOON</p> <p>Lack of resources led to Texas pioneers using cattle horns. The horns were carved into a wide range of containers, including cups and spoons.</p>



<p>HAND AX</p> <p>The hand ax is a multipurpose tool used for cutting wood and personal defense.</p>	<p>COMPASS</p> <p>A compass was used to help with directions.</p>	<p>CANDLE MOLD</p> <p>The candle mold is one tool used to make beeswax candles. A necessary ingredient for creating candles was beeswax.</p>
<p>FLINT & STEEL</p> <p>Before the invention of matches, fires were started by striking a piece of steel against a piece of flint. The impact resulted in a shower of sparks.</p>	<p>BULLET BLOCK</p> <p>A weapon used in 1800s Texas would have required gunpowder, a flint or bullets. The bullets on the bullet block illustrate the different calibers or the diameter of the weapons barrel.</p>	<p>POWDER HORN</p> <p>Cow horn was used to create a container that held gun powder. Powder horns were usually attached to hunting bags.</p>
<p>HUNTING BAG</p> <p>A useful tool for storing supplies needed for weapons.</p>	<p>POT SCRUBBER</p> <p>Pot scrubbers like these were made by binding together fibers called sisal harvested from the native Mexican agave plant.</p>	<p>CANDLE</p> <p>Candles were used for religious purposes and necessary for light after sunset.</p>



MARBLES

Crock marbles, or marbles made from clay, were popular toys in the 1800s.

DICE

Dice could be made of wood, bone, or lead. Soldiers sometimes hammered musket balls into cubes and marked them with the appropriate dots.

MIRROR

Mirrors were made for soldiers to carry on the road. These mirrors were designed to help a soldier shave.

PLAYING CARDS

On the frontier, card playing was often associated with gambling.

Examples:

- Brag was a form of poker.
- Faro was a card game like roulette.
- Monte was a popular Mexican card game.

TOOTHBRUSH

Toothbrush handles were usually made from bone or wood while their bristles were made from stiff hog hair.

CORNHUSK DOLL

A cornhusk doll was a toy that a child who lived in Texas during the early 1900s would have created and played with.

LICE COMB

Combs of the period often had two different sides— one was for regular combing and the other was for lice.

COINS

Paper money had not yet come into popular use in the 1800s. Money, in most people's minds, was gold or silver coins called specie.