

# Pitcher



NMI Handling Collection

## What is it?

A pitcher is a container used for storing and pouring liquids. This pitcher was turned from a solid block of cherry wood in 2015 by Ambrose O'Halloran, Claregalway, Co Galway. It is based on an example from the NMI Collection.

## What was it used for?

Pitchers can come in all shapes and sizes, and can carry anything, from oil, to wine, to water.



Ambrose O'Halloran woodturning, 2015  
Image: NMI Collection

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The word 'pitcher' comes from the 13th century Middle English word *picher*, meaning 'earthen jug'. This in turn is linked with the Old French word *pichier* or *bichier*, meaning 'drinking cup'.

## Brief History

Vessels of similar design to a pitcher are mentioned in Biblical texts on a number of occasions; however containers for the storing of liquid appear in archaeological records stretching back into antiquity.

Though often referred to as a jug, pitchers did not always have a spout or narrow opening for pouring. Jugs would normally be made out of glass or ceramic, whereas pitchers were generally made out of turned wood or moulded earthenware.

In most homes and businesses a pitcher was simply functional, like the example of Irish earthenware below.



Earthenware pitcher  
NMI Collection

# Crúsca



Bailiúchán Láimhseála AMÉ

## Céard atá ann?

Is coimeádán é crúsca a úsáidtear chun leachtanna a stóráil agus a dhoirteadh. Dheil Ambrose O'Halloran, Baile Chláir, Co na Gaillimhe, an crúsca seo as bloc soladach d'adhmaid sílín in 2015. Tá sé bunaithe ar shampla i mBailiúchán AMÉ.

## Cén úsáid a mbaintear as?

Tá crúscaí ar fáil i gcruthanna agus i méideanna éagsúla, agus is féidir rudaí éagsúla a iompar iontu, lena n-áirítear ola, fíon agus uisce.



Ambrose O'Halloran ag deileadh adhmaid, 2015

Pictiúr: Bailiúchán AMÉ

AN RAIBH A  
FHÍOS AGAT?

Tagann an focal 'pitcher' ón bhfocal *picher* ó Mheán-Bhéarla an 13ú haois, agus an bhrí crúiscín cré ['earthen jug'] leis. Dá réir sin, tá sé nasctha leis an bhfocal ó Shean-Fhraincis *pichier* nó *bichier*, agus an bhrí 'cupán óil' leo.



## Stair Ghairid

Luaitear soithí de dheardh atá cosúil leis an gcrúsca i dtéacsanna Bíobalta go measartha minic; ach, tá coimeádáin le leacht a stóráil le fáil i dtaifid seandálaíochta siar na blianta fada.

Cé gur tugadh crúiscín ['jug' an Bhéarla] orthu go minic, ní raibh gob nó oscailt chaol i gcónaí ag na crúscaí le haghaidh doirte. De ghnáth, rinneadh crúiscíní as gloine nó ceirmeach, ach rinneadh crúscaí den chuid is mó as adhmaid deilte nó as cré múnlaithé.

Sa chuid is mó de thithe agus de ghnóthais, ní raibh ach úsáid fheidhmeach ag baint leis na crúscaí, mar atá sa sampla de chré na hÉireann thíos.



Crúsca cré  
Bailiúchán AMÉ

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