

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



## **GERMAN SMALL CARVED IVORY MEMENTO MORI TERMINAL ROSARY BEAD**

A GERMAN SMALL CARVED IVORY MEMENTO MORI TERMINAL ROSARY BEAD IN THE FORM OF A SKULL

FINE WORN SMOOTH SILKY PATINA

17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 2CM HIGH, 2CM WIDE, 2CM DEEP -  $\frac{3}{4}$  INS HIGH,  $\frac{3}{4}$  INS WIDE,  $\frac{3}{4}$  INS DEEP

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## LITERATURE

MADE FOR DEVOTIONAL USE THE FUNCTION OF THESE BEADS WAS TO MARK THE BEGINNING AND END OF A PRAYER CYCLE. REMINDING THE BELIEVER OF HIS MORTALITY, THE PATERNOSTER OR TERMINAL BEAD ON A ROSARY REPRESENTS AN ACT OF INNER CONTEMPLATION. IT IS ALSO EVIDENCE OF THE ANONYMITY OF DEATH AND PERHAPS OF TRUTHS BEYOND THE TRANSIENT DETAILS OF LIFE.