

MOM'S JOY ROOM

2964 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26501 | (304) 282-3671

CERTIFICATE OF DESCRIPTION & VALUATION

Large Antique-Style Carved Wood Child's Ride-On Horse — Hand-Restored



MARKET VALUE

\$450–700

Realistic quick-sale price, private/shop market

ESTIMATED WORTH

\$800–1,100

Ceiling for antique ride-on toy specialty collectors



*36" carved wood child's ride-on horse
Standing horse figure, forward-galloping pose
Large iron wheels & front steering/push handle
Decorative scarf & pinecone wreath accent*

♦ "BEFORE" PHOTO — SHOWN PRIOR TO
SANDY'S HAND-PAINTING & NEW ENGLISH
LEATHER TACK ♦

36" Carved Wood Child's Ride-On Horse

*Antique-Style Wheeled Ride-On Toy — Hand-
Painted by Sandy Wade — English Leather
Saddle & Bridle*

HISTORY

Large carved wooden ride-on horses mounted on wheeled iron undercarriages were among the most cherished children's toys of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, produced by both American and European makers in a huge range of styles and levels of craftsmanship — from simple folk-art examples carved by hand, to elaborately detailed horses produced commercially for department stores and mail-order catalogs. Unlike the classic bow-rocker rocking horse, these wheeled ride-on horses let a child straddle the horse's back and be rolled forward on real wheels, while a parent or older sibling could steer and push from behind using a handle mounted at the front of the frame — combining the appeal of "riding" a horse with the mobility of a wagon or cart.

This particular example is a large, substantial 36-inch carved wood ride-on horse, with the body carved in a naturalistic

standing/forward-stepping pose, front hooves extended and a gently arched neck typical of the ride-on horse forms popular from roughly the 1880s through the early 20th century. The undercarriage features two larger iron wheels at the rear and a steering/push handle at the front, allowing an adult to guide and push the horse along while a child rides on top.

The photograph shown here is a **"before" image**, taken prior to further restoration work personally completed by Sandy Wade of Mom's Joy Room. Sandy hand-painted the horse herself and sourced a genuine **leather saddle and bridle imported from England** specifically to outfit this piece, giving the horse a finished, tack-dressed presentation that goes well beyond its as-acquired condition. This kind of hands-on restoration and thoughtful, era-appropriate tack sourcing meaningfully enhances both the display appeal and the value of a large-scale ride-on horse like this one, and reflects the same personal care Sandy has applied to other hand-refinished pieces in her collection.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Size: 36 inches — a substantial, large-scale example
- ◆ Type: Child's ride-on horse — not a pull toy — child sits/straddles the back
- ◆ Construction: Hand-carved wood horse body, standing/forward-stepping pose
- ◆ Undercarriage: Iron wheel frame — two larger rear wheels, front steering/push handle
- ◆ Restoration: Hand-painted by Sandy Wade (Mom's Joy Room) after acquisition
- ◆ Tack: Genuine leather saddle & bridle, sourced from England, fitted by Sandy specifically for this horse
- ◆ Style: American/European folk-art ride-on horse tradition, late 1800s–early 1900s style
- ◆ Use today: Equally suited to antique toy display or farmhouse/folk-art sculptural decor

Collector's note: No maker's mark is visible in the original photograph, so this piece is valued here as a quality large-scale antique-style carved wood ride-on horse rather than a confirmed period antique attributed to a specific maker. Comparable large carved wood ride-on horses and wheeled horse-toy forms have sold in the \$300–950 range depending on age, carving quality, condition, and completeness of the wheeled frame — with confirmed 19th-century American or European examples at the

top of that range. This example's value is boosted above a typical "as-found" piece because of Sandy's hand-painting and the addition of a genuine English leather saddle and bridle, both of which add real presentation value and craftsmanship beyond the original condition shown in the photo. Market Value reflects realistic private-sale/shop pricing for a piece of this size, quality, and finished tack; Estimated Worth reflects the ceiling a dedicated antique toy or folk-art collector might pay for a well-outfitted example like this one.

"A wooden steed built to be ridden – freshly painted by hand and fitted with a genuine English leather saddle and bridle, ready to stand proud once more."

Mom's Joy Room | Morgantown, WV
Certificate Issued: July 2026

Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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