

MOM'S JOY ROOM

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

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY



Antique wooden Sho-Fly style rocking horse, boat-base rocker

CURRENT MARKET VALUE

\$250 – \$600

*Based on size, wood condition, and original paint;
larger and earlier examples bring more*

Antique Sho-Fly Rocking Horse

Early-to-mid 20th century — American folk toy tradition

HISTORY

The "Sho-Fly" (also seen as "Shoo-Fly") rocking horse is a classic American children's toy design: a wooden horse figure mounted on a boat-shaped rocker base rather than the traditional bow-rocker or platform-and-spring style. The form dates back to the early 1900s and remained popular through the mid-20th century as a durable, easy-to-produce alternative to elaborately carved carousel-style rocking horses. Sho-Fly horses were produced by a number of American toy and furniture makers and were a fixture of American nurseries and porches for decades.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Style: Sho-Fly type — wooden horse figure on a boat-shaped rocker base
- ◆ Construction: solid wood body and rocker, painted finish
- ◆ Type: children's ride-on rocking toy, early-mid 20th century American folk toy tradition
- ◆ Condition: consistent with age and use; retains its rocking mechanism

COLLECTOR NOTES

Sho-Fly rocking horses remain a popular collecting and decorating category, with prices largely driven by size, the presence and condition of original paint, and overall structural soundness of the rocker joints. Examples with strong original paint and larger scale (35"+ in length) command the top of the range, while more worn or smaller examples trend toward the lower end. This is a decorative folk-art form as much as a toy, and often appeals to buyers furnishing farmhouse or Americana-themed spaces.

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Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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