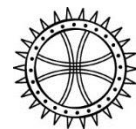




Two wooden spoons with figures and chains. These spoons were made in 1874 by Knut Sletto, an emigrant from Norway. Knut was a carpenter and house builder in Minnesota. All of the pieces of each spoon are connected, which means each spoon was carved out a single piece of wood and nothing was attached later. People getting married in Norway long ago used these types of decorative spoons to eat with during the celebration. Do you have special tableware, like plates or cups or spoons, that you use for parties or to celebrate special days?

Donated by K.O. Sletto, Luther College Collection, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-LC1711



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Wooden spoon with painted decoration. The spoon has Norwegian words on the handle that say, “butter spoon.” This spoon was used for pressing butter into and for getting butter out of a storage crock or container. The spoon was made in 1880, but was painted much later. Do you have spoons or other kitchen utensils that are only used for particular jobs or special reasons?

Donated by Judith Aune Klein, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-1967.004.004

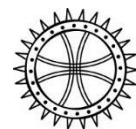


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Wooden spoon with holes. This spoon was brought from Norway to Minnesota. The spoon is a type of strainer with holes in it to let liquids drain away from solid foods. Strainers are helpful when cooking, but they can also be useful in other activities or jobs. Can you find other examples of strainers in your house? Can you find or think of a tool, machine, furniture, or clothing that lets some things pass through but keeps other things in or out?

Museum purchase, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-1990.069.001



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Large wooden spoon with hooked handle. This spoon is made out of birch wood and was brought to Iowa by Norwegian immigrants in the middle 1800s. The handle helps the spoon hook onto or rest on the edge of a pot or container so that it doesn't fall into whatever you are cooking or serving. What kitchen utensil or tool would you reinvent or reimagine to make it work better or to solve a problem?

Donated by Marie Torgrim, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-1976.067.001

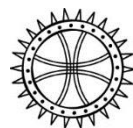


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Wooden spoon with incised decorations, dated 1752. Someone used a very sharp knife to incise or cut thin lines into the wood to make the people and the other designs on this spoon. The inscription or writing on the spoon is difficult to read because the spoon is very worn, but it says something like “Here stands the daughter, and Sten and his son.” Maybe the people are the spoon maker’s family. Have you drawn a picture of your family?

Donated by Maihaugen Museum, Luther College Collection, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-LC1278



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Wooden spoons with *kolrosing*. These spoons in Vesterheim's collection are decorated with *kolrosing*, a type of incised decoration. The spoon makers used very sharp knives to carve thin lines into the wood to make the shapes, figures, and patterns. Then they rubbed ground-up bark or coffee grounds mixed with a little oil into the lines to be able to see the decorations. Each spoon is different. What pictures and patterns would you use to decorate your own spoon?

Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum Collection-LC1726, LC1846, LC2307, and 1998.080.035



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