



BLUE AND WHITE LION AND PEONY HEADREST

\$280

Mid-20th Century • China • Porcelain • Collection #CESB029I

W: 5.0" D: 2.25" H: 4.5"

This small ceramic block is actually a form of Chinese headrest or neck pillow. Popular during the Qing dynasty, rigid headrests such as this were used by upper-class women to protect their elaborate hairstyles by elevating the head during slumber. This example dates to the mid-20th century and is glazed in the blue-and-white style with a stencil-transfer design.

The broad sides of the headrest are decorated with a mythical fu lion dog amid peony blossoms, symbols of summer, love, and affection. A powerful and benevolent guardian, the fu lion (shizi) is the perfect force to protect against nightmares and bad energy. Continued...



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BLUE AND WHITE LION AND PEONY HEADREST

Spider chrysanthemums decorate the short sides, symbols of autumn and longevity. Floral scrollwork trims the edges and coin-shaped cutouts perforate the side, beckoning wealth and good fortune.

Hairline cracks on both sides.

