



DESCRIPTION AND SUGGESTED USES

This is a washer for laundry comprised of wood and metal. It is a tapered square tin washtub with a wood top. The partial top is hinged with a turn crank agitator. The designer was Elmer Victor Allen, hence the name the "Victor Manufacturing Company." The patent for this device was issued on January 26, 1904. Glorieta Private Collection.

SUGGESTED USES

1. Combine this artifact with the Lakeside Vacuum Cleaner in a lesson concerning changes in American society after the Civil War.
 - a. These machines were created to make a woman's life "easier." Do you think that these machines improved women's lives or created more work for women?
 - b. Did these machines relieve women's responsibilities or men's duties in the household? Who benefitted the most from these items?
 - c. *You may wish to employ the context support documents: Woman and Washboard and Washing Machines* in order to give a sense of the arduous nature of "doing laundry."
2. Combine this artifact with the Washboard. As they were both intended to improve laundry tasks, compare and contrast:
 - a. The methods employed in design that might have assisted in reducing the labor involved in the task.
 - b. In what ways do you think that this washing machine reduced the labor of women, or did it? Answers should be based on evidence from analysis of the artifacts and the analysis of the context support documents.