

Clothing pin

Date

before 6th century C.E.

Medium

Bronze

Description

"In the ancient Mediterranean, a long bronze pin like this one would have had a variety of uses, both decorative and practical, in regards to hair and dress. While long pins might have been used to style hair in the Roman Empire between the first century B.C.E. to the fourth century C.E., this object was more likely used to fasten a cloak, given the decorative floral charm on its end. This type of cloak pin was eventually replaced by the fibula, a more technologically advanced type of pin akin to a modern safety pin, though generally much more ornate, and could similarly be used to fasten cloaks, togas, and other garments." -written by Christina Naston, Class of 2020.

Dimensions

Overall (length): 6 7/8 in. (17.5 cm)