**Flat Irons Help sheet**

**The numbers** on the irons related to their size. **T**he smallest irons being used for baby clothes and small parts of garments like sleeves.

**Flat Irons** were also called Smoothing irons because they smoothed out the creases. Sometimes they were called **Sad** irons because they were so solid.

**Flat irons** were made of **cast iron** and it lasted a very long time. Ones that are still around now tend to be rather rusty.

The smallest iron has **a round bottom!**

Why did an iron have a round bottom? Because it was especially for the inside of Top Hats and Bowler Hats.

This iron was often called a **Tailor’s iron** because it was used by people who made formal suits and frock coats. It was also know as a box iron and the stone was called **a Slug**

**The slug** was heated in the fire as a way of heating the iron. Irons were used in twos- one actually for ironing and the other one heating up on the fire ready for use when the first one cooled down.



These irons were **Billiard Irons** and were used when cleaning and caring for billiard and snooker tables. You can watch a video of them in use on Utube if you google Billiard Irons. I hope you enjoy sharing these with your family and friends. Your Grand parents will probably be able to tell you a lot more about Flat Irons.