



157. LUKE SKYWALKER HERO LIGHTSABER FROM *STAR WARS*. (TCF, 1977) This lightsaber used by Mark Hamill as Luke Skywalker is the non-fighting version of the famous Jedi weapon. This particular version is constructed from an existing Graflex flash gun from the 1930s, and is fitted with black grips around the base.

As with all Luke lightsabers created for the first *Star Wars* film, the black grips are attached with an adhesive. During production of the *The Empire Strikes Back*, problems arose during filming in Finse, Norway when the sub-zero temperatures caused the glue to freeze and the grips to fall off. After this experience, the grips were attached with rivets and/or screws. As such, this lightsaber can be positively identified with the first *Star Wars* film, although it may also have been used during the filming of *The Empire Strikes Back* since many original props and costumes were carried over into the second production.

This lightsaber is in good condition for its age, but is missing the circuit board detailing usually attached to the clasp. The silver tape which originally covered the Graflex name has also been removed.

An important and now iconic piece of *Star Wars* lore, this hero lightsaber used by Luke comes directly from the archive of Gary Kurtz, producer of *Star Wars* and *The Empire Strikes Back*, and is accompanied with a letter of authenticity signed by Gary Kurtz and an additional letter of authenticity signed by Jason Joiner of the Kurtz / Joiner Archive.

A wonderful piece of film history used for the very first appearance of the spectacular "lightsaber", which thrilled audiences the world over.
\$60,000 – \$80,000