

Basic Detail Report



Grinding Stone

Date

ca. 600-900

Primary Maker

Maya (archaeological culture)

Medium

basalt

Description

Ornate grinding stones were made throughout ancient Mesoamerica and are still used today for ceremonial purposes, although the mechanized molino has replaced these tools for daily use. A high ranking person might have had multiple metates in their household in ancient times, each with a different decoration. This example has the head of a feathered serpent, important throughout ancient Mesoamerica, as a decorative element.

Dimensions

Overall: 7 1/2 x 14 1/8 x 20 1/4 in. (19.1 x 35.9 x 51.4 cm)