

# Basic Detail Report

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## Flat Stamp

### Date

ca. 1-700

### Primary Maker

Greater Nicoya

### Medium

pottery

### Description

Both cylindrical and flat stamps were made in the Greater Nicoya area, but flat stamps are more common in its central region. Both types of stamps were created by hand and design elements were cut when the material

was still soft using a technique called excision, which provides high and low-relief design. This flat stamp has a geometric design that may represent an abstract jaguar spot or, perhaps, a floral image. It would have been suitable for body decoration or stamping cloth and clay. Little is known about the meaning of these designs or how the stamps were used.

### Dimensions

Overall: 1 3/8 x 1 3/4 in. (3.5 x 4.4 cm)