

Basic Detail Report



Blouse (Huipil)

Date

not dated

Primary Maker

Artist Unknown

Medium

cotton, velvet, dye and metal zipper

Description

This older two-panel huipil from Totoncapán features a simple geometric design in blue and white on white cotton with red velvet trim. A zipper was sewn in at the neckline, and it is machine hemmed at the bottom. Given its early date of manufacture, the blue may be true indigo, from the indigofera plant native to Central America. Despite its importance during the pre-contact and Colonial periods, it is very rare to find anyone using natural indigo dye today in Guatemala, as commercial dyes first made available in the early 20th century are easier to use and more readily available.

Dimensions

Overall: 23 1/2 x 33 in. (59.7 x 83.8 cm)