



Basket

Date

ca. 1950

Primary Maker

Gran Chiriquí

Medium

plain and dyed plant fiber

Description

Baskets of this type, made from local woven plant fibers, are still crafted today for many reasons: they are inexpensive to make, require few materials, can be made quickly in one to two hours, and are versatile, being used for everything from collecting food to packing medicinal plants for those in need. The lid of this basket contains two intentional slits through which the handle is attached. This design feature allows the lid to be slid up and down along the handle, but it cannot be lost or detached from the basket. Other design elements incorporated into the

basket are consistent with ancient Chiriquí pottery, such as the black swirling design. The plain plant fiber, which contrasts with the dyed black pattern, demonstrates how this modern basket from the mid twentieth century has retained design elements seen in pottery dating to 800-1500 CE.

Dimensions

Overall: 8 x 4 7/8 in. (20.3 x 12.4 cm)