

Basic Detail Report



Ballgame Yoke

Date

ca. 600-900

Primary Maker

Maya (archaeological culture)

Medium

stone and specular hematite

Description

Maya kings and other high ranking lords played a sporting game in which they wore heavy belts, or yokes, like this one, and hit a solid rubber ball off their thighs, knees, and elbows. The ballgame was played on various forms throughout all of Mesoamerican pre-history and ornate stone yokes are the durable remains of the ubiquity of this game. This example is decorated on both ends with the head of the young Maize Deity and may have been worn for display before or after the game, rather than as field equipment.

Dimensions

Overall: 4 5/8 x 13 7/8 x 16 in. (11.7 x 35.2 x 40.6 cm)