



Otterskin Bag

Date

c. 1890

Primary Maker

Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)

Medium

Otter pelt, cotton cloth, porcupine quills, silk ribbons, glass beads, brass bells, steel button, native blue clay pigment

Description

This otterskin bag is made of otter pelt, cotton cloth, porcupine quills, silk ribbons, glass beads, brass bells, steel buttons, and native blue clay pigments. The top of the bag has four strands of ribbon attached; two pink and two yellow. There are two decorative elements of a black background with white and red designs that are edged by purple. Each element has three brass bells attached. On the bottom there are two more decorative elements with

black background, white and yellow designs and edged in red. These also have three brass bells attached. The tapered end of the bag has a black background, red, blue, yellow, and green designs that are edged in white and the entire area is edged in red.

Dimensions

Overall: 5 3/4 × 34 in. (14.6 × 86.4 cm)