



Gambling Tray

Date

1890-1900

Primary Maker

Klamath/Modoc

Medium

Tule, staghorn lichen (dyed, natural), Scirpus lacustris, yellow-dyed) porcupine quills, dyed with staghorn lichen

Description

Large flexible gambling trays were popular among basketweavers living along the Oregon-California border. Gambling trays were used in games that were played with two pairs of decorated sticks. The sticks were moved back and forth under the basket while the opponents tried to guess their positions. Golden-tan undyed tule comprises the background and yellow-dyed porcupine quills and earth-dyed tule constitute the design. Although the design on this gambling tray was particularly favored by weavers, its significance is unknown.

Dimensions

Overall: 3 1/4 × 30 in. (8.3 × 76.2 cm)