

# Basic Detail Report

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## Bowl

**Date**

1860-1880

**Primary Maker**

Coast Tsimshian (or Haisla?)

**Medium**

Birch, abalone shell

**Description**

The carver of this unique bowl was innovative because traditional carved bowls with animal imagery have a powerful, but somewhat static appearance. He added playful vitality to the form by creating an upswept sense of movement in the seal’s head and tail. The image of a seal grasping a large salmon almost obscures the vessel itself. Highly skilled artists produced fine works to be sold or given as prestigious gifts to visitors.

**Dimensions**

Overall: 4 1/4 × 5 1/4 × 9 1/2 in. (10.8 × 13.3 × 24.1 cm)