



Split Horn Headdress

Date

c. 1870

Primary Maker

Blackfeet

Medium

Hawk feathers, wood, porcupine quills, glass beads, trade cloth, ermine fur, horsehair, silk, animal hide

Description

A warrior had to receive spiritual instruction from a dream or a mystical experience before having the right to make a horned bonnet. Through this instruction he also received songs which related to the privileges of wearing the bonnet. These honors were considered to be gifts or blessings and were believed to protect the owner in

warfare. Horned bonnets were worn by members of the Bull society, which honored the buffalo spirits in its ceremonials.

Dimensions

Overall: 34 1/2 × 8 1/2 × 8 1/2 in. (87.6 × 21.6 × 21.6 cm)