



## Dagger

### Date

1790-1810

### Primary Maker

Tlingit

### Medium

Whalebone, steel, copper rivet, abalone shell, leather, cotton, pigment, pitch

### Description

This imposing dagger with its powerful blade is as dramatic as it is daunting. The whalebone carving features an abstracted wolf's head. Originally, abalone shell traded from California was inlaid in the wolf's eyes and ears, a few pieces of abalone remain in several of the teeth and one nostril. Objects such as this imposing and highly esteemed dagger would have been brought out at important public ceremonies and used to help validate oral histories of deeds and involvements of clan ancestors.

### Dimensions

Overall: 20 1/2 × 2 1/2 in. (52.1 × 6.4 cm)