

Basic Detail Report



Chilkat Robe

Date

c. 1850

Primary Maker

Tlingit

Medium

Handspun mountain goat wool, cedar bark, linen thread, Native dye

Description

Tlingit men and women collaborated to make Chilkat robes, which were worn for ceremonies and special occasions. The technique is generally referred to as Chilkat weaving in recognition of the particular group of Tlingit women who excelled in this art form. Men painted approximately 2/3, one side and center, of the robe's symmetrical design on a pattern board, women then used the board as a design reference when weaving the garments. They finger-wove the robes using complex braiding and twining techniques that allowed curvilinear designs. Chilkat robes are prestigious potlatch regalia. A diving whale, crest imagery that identified the ancestral lineage of a family, appears at the center of this robe.

Dimensions

Overall (Including fringe): 52 × 72 in. (132.1 × 182.9 cm)