



Rattle

Date

c. 1800-1860

Primary Maker

Nuu-chah-nulth (Nootka), Makah

Medium

Wood (possibly yew), twine, sinew, brass tack, pebble

Description

The grouse is frequently seen as a subject for round rattles among the Nootka and is represented here with its plump body, extended neck, and top feathers. It is an effective caricature of a commonly seen and hunted coastal bird. The figure is rendered with utmost simplicity. The smooth, round body provides a large resonating cavity for the percussive material – a small stone, likely a stone from a grouse’s gizzard.

Dimensions

Overall: 4 × 4 1/8 × 12 3/4 in. (10.2 × 10.5 × 32.4 cm)