



Aryballos (oil container)

Date

early 6th century B.C.E.

Primary Maker

Unknown artist, Greek (Ancient)

Medium

Terracotta with slip

Description

Squat aryballos with ring base and scale pattern. "Aryballoi were used by athletes to hold oil that was rubbed onto the body before exercise or competition (Miller 2004, 14-15). They often appear hanging by a small strap from athlete's wrist in gymnasium scenes. In addition to this practical function, they were also a popular grave good and would have been a suitable votive offering in a hero sanctuary (Payne 1931, 290E). (SOURCE: The Walters Museum, Baltimore)"

Dimensions

Overall (Height): 2 1/2 in. (6.4 cm) Rim (Diam.): 1 1/4 in. (3.2 cm)

Diameter (Max.): 2 in. (5.1 cm) Base (Diam.): 1 1/4 in. (3.2 cm)