



Bentwood Dish

Date

before 1850

Medium

Wood and spruce root

Description

Kerfing was an important technique used by the Native Americans of the Northwest Coast to produce watertight boxes. The process involved the precise scoring and steam heating of a continuous strip of wood, whereby the strip would be bent to form the sides of a box. The first and fourth sides were sewn or pegged together and a bottom added by sewing or pegging. This bent wood dish

has carvings on all sides and is impregnated with fish or seal oil which exudes from the surface.

Dimensions

Overall: 4 1/2 x 9 1/4 x 6 5/8 in. (11.4 x 23.5 x 16.8 cm)