



Aryballos (oil container)

Date

late 7th century BCE

Primary Maker

Unknown artist, Greek (Ancient)

Medium

Terracotta with slip

Description

Depicts a swan. "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 9/16 x 2 9/16 in. (6.5 x 6.5 cm) Rim (Diam.): 1 5/8 in. (4.1 cm) Diameter (Max.): 2 9/16 in. (6.5 cm)