



Workbasket Doll

Date

1200-1450

Primary Maker

Chancay

Medium

cotton, dye and reed

Description

The textile-oriented Chancay culture produced custom-made dolls for their burial rites and this example was found with a weaver's basket. These dolls are believed to represent the deceased. The facial patterns suggest that face painting was practiced. It is interesting to note that the faces are colored red in much the same manner as the death masks or false heads were painted. The style of the clothing provides a clue as to the manner of dress on the Central Coast of Peru in ancient times. The doll's body consists of a reed armature around which is tightly wrapped a red wool yarn. Fingers and toes are defined and each face has been woven separately on a narrow loom.

Dimensions

Overall: 12 5/8 x 4 3/4 x 2 1/2 in. (32.1 x 12.1 x 6.4 cm)