



Adze (Toki)

Date

late 19th to 20th Century

Medium

Wood, stone and sennit fiber

Description

This ceremonial adze stood as a sacred image and vessel of supernatural powers of the local deities of the Cook Islands. The process of making the adze was in itself a sacred activity as each of the materials (wood, stone, and fiber) were joined together to make a single object of power.

Dimensions

Adze overall: 25 3/4 × 4 × 3 1/2 in. (65.4 × 10.2 × 8.9 cm) Adze head only: 3 1/2 × 1 × 1 1/8 in. (8.9 × 2.5 × 2.9 cm)