



## Cauldron (Ding)

**Date**  
475-221 BCE

**Medium**  
Ceramic

**Description**  
Cauldrons such as this ding were made of clay from the late Neolithic period until the Xia dynasty. By the Warring States period, these vessels were usually made from

bronze, indicating that this pottery ding was only used for a ceremonial role or in a burial. The sole ornamentation is the band around the middle, called a xianwen in Chinese.

**Dimensions**  
4 1/2 × 11 in. (11.4 × 27.9 cm)