



Vessel

Date

5000-3000 BCE

Medium

Painted ceramic

Description

This piece is painted with an intricate combination of zig-zag and horizontal lines, which were both popular in the northwest of China during the Neolithic period. The lower body of the vessel being left unadorned was also a signature of that region. The lower body of the jar was likely left blank because it was stored sunken into the ground, where any design could not have been appreciated. The vessel's placement in the ground encouraged stability and lessened the possibility for spillage of the contents stored within.

Dimensions

9 × 7 1/2 in. (22.9 × 19.1 cm)