

# Basic Detail Report

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## Basket

### Primary Maker

Pima

### Medium

Plant fiber (willow, tule and devil's claw)

### Description

The Pima, Papago and the Apache of southern Arizona make similar basketry trays, distinguished from one

another less by design than by the structural manufacture of the baskets. Whereas the Apache use willow rods as the foundation for their weaving, the Pima tend to use grass, making their trays far more flexible. The Pima are well-known for never using dyes in their weavings, the darker sections are most likely made with devil's claw. The lighter color seen here relative to the darker color of the devil's claw used by the Papago result from the differences in cultivation between the two groups. The meandering patterns of the bowl appear to be a variation of the popular Pima vortex design. Though ethnographers originally assumed that the design represented rivers feeding into a lake, the dark circle at the center of the tray actually represents a spring at the center of the earth from which all water flows outwards.

### Dimensions

3 1/2 × 16 3/4 in. (8.9 × 42.5 cm)