

Basic Detail Report



Box with Inserts

Date

mid-late 20th Century

Medium

Wood, lacquer and pigment

Description

Lacquer was and is a popular medium as it is a very durable material. It can be thought of as a natural plastic. This tough quality led to its wide-spread use, particularly in Asia. One such use was for boxes. Lacquer boxes were most often used for the storage of documents, gifts, incense, cosmetics, jewelry, hairpins or medicinal herbs and minerals. In the 18th and 19th centuries, boxes created for the storage of sewing, tea, implements and games were important trade items to consumers in Europe and the United States. As lacquer was used on many different objects, unique design techniques for the material also developed.

Dimensions

2014.9.8a - Box: 1 1/4 × 12 1/2 in. (3.2 × 31.8 cm) 2014.9.8b - Lid: 2 × 12 1/2 in. (5.1 × 31.8 cm) 2014.9.8c-i - Trays: 1 × 5 1/2 × 3 1/2 in. (2.5 × 14 × 8.9 cm)