

Basic Detail Report



Baby Carrier

Date
mid to late 20th Century

Primary Maker
Miao

Medium

Cotton and silk

Description

Miao baby carriers are symbolic of the love and care a mother has for her child. Baby carriers require a great deal of time and attention to make as well as a well-developed skill in embroidery. They are normally made by girls prior to marriage, but can also be made by family members of a bride and presented to a new mother and father after a baby is one month old. The main motif seen on this carrier is the butterfly. The butterfly is a commonly used motif in Miao textiles. The butterfly figures quite prominently in the Miao's creation myths as it is the butterfly mother who created humans. Placing a butterfly motif on baby carriers ensures good luck and health for the baby as well as fertility for women and prosperity for families.

Dimensions

28 1/2 × 97 in. (72.4 × 246.4 cm)