



down through generations.

Dimensions

23 × 9 1/2 × 5 in. (58.4 × 24.1 × 12.7 cm)

Cradle Board

Date

early to mid 20th Century

Primary Maker

Jemez

Medium

Hide, wood, fiber and string

Description

Cradle boards served a dual purpose as babies could both sleep and be transported in them. A cradleboard typically has a wooden component, typically some sort of flat backboard. Babies would be swaddled, laid on a layer or layers of soft material and securely attached to a cradleboard with straps. The way in which babies were positioned on the cradleboards mimicked the feelings of being held and limited their movements. This secure carrier allowed for mothers to carry on with daily chores and responsibilities without having to worry about their babies. Cradleboards were often given as gifts and passed