

Basic Detail Report



Skirt (Nshak)

Date
early to mid 20th Century

Primary Maker
Kuba

Medium
Raffia panels and cotton thread

Description
Nshak are midcalf-length skirts worn by Kuba women in the Democratic Republic of Congo made of red and white raffia weaving. Usually, men will make the base cloth (a process that includes dyeing and softening raffia leaves and then weaving them into cloth) and women will decorate the skirts with embroidery in black thread or patches of cloth. Nshak can be betrothal gifts woven for a bride by her husband-to-be and decorated by his female relatives.

Dimensions
32 × 182 in. (81.3 × 462.3 cm)