



Chest Ornament (Wopok)

Date

mid to late 20th Century

Primary Maker

Dani

Medium

Nassa shell, plant fiber and plastic

Description

Men's chest ornaments are worn over the sternum as a protective layer for warfare and as protection from malevolent spirits. These adornments, also called wopok, are said to have been worn as part of the regalia of the edai dance which celebrates the death of an enemy.

Dimensions

21 1/2 × 3 3/4 × 1/2 in. (54.6 × 9.5 × 1.3 cm)