



## Monkey Figure

### Date

20th Century

### Primary Maker

Bamileke

### Medium

Wood, pigment and rope

### Description

A carved wooden figure from the 20th Century, likely originating from the grasslands region of Cameroon. This region is home to many cultures which are commonly grouped as Bamileke. Many figures of this region are ceremonial in nature and honor ancestors or a king (fon). This figure's features, including its oval eyes, nostrils, lip line, fingers, and genitalia, are formed by relief carving. He wears two differently braided ropes—one around the neck and the other around the waist. Despite having

simian features such as a flattened snout and boxed ears, most depictions of monkeys among the Bamileke have very pronounced snouts with barred teeth. Both this and the adornment around the waist indicate that it is a man.

### Dimensions

30 × 11 1/2 × 9 in. (76.2 × 29.2 × 22.9 cm)