



## Lime Container

**Date**

19th Century

**Medium**

Brass

**Description**

This is a brass lime container from Laos. Lime comes from grinding up burnt coral or limestone into a fine power.

When mixed with ground betel nut, the compound releases alkaloids which have a narcotic effect when they enter the human bloodstream. These containers are usually paired with a stick which is used to serve the lime powder. The usage of the narcotic can have a religious function or be done recreationally. Due to the negative impacts of long-term usage, Laotian consumption has fallen drastically in recent years.

**Dimensions**

A - Base: 2 3/8 × 3 3/8 × 3 3/8 in. (6 × 8.6 × 8.6 cm) B - Middle part: 5/8 × 3 1/8 × 3 1/8 in. (1.6 × 7.9 × 7.9 cm) C - Lid: 2 1/4 × 3 5/8 × 3 5/8 in. (5.7 × 9.2 × 9.2 cm)