



Necklace

Date

20th Century

Medium

Kina shell, cowrie shell, plant fiber, pigment, and cuscus fur

Description

Shell necklaces are highly prized throughout Papua New Guinea where their name, kina, has been adopted as that of the national currency. The process of creating such a pendant is quite time consuming and involves various tools. The small holes that adorn some of these shells were made with a drill. The same large shells used in kina necklaces are also used in currency plaques.

Dimensions

19 7/8 × 9 3/16 × 1 3/8 in. (50.5 × 23.3 × 3.5 cm)