Basic Detail Report



Snuff-Box

Date

1820

Medium

Olive wood, tortoiseshell

Description

Round, disc like box made of turned and polished olive wood with a tortoise shell lining. Snuff boxes were used for holding snuff, a scented powdered tobacco, in the 17th and 18th centuries. It was inhaled through the nose and was thought to have medicinal properties. The making of snuff boxes was a lucrative business. They could range in design from very simple to extremely ornate.