



Date:

1840

Identifier:

T0122

Description:

Excerpt from the Thaw Catalog: The Dine (Navajos) learned weaving from the Pueblos about 1700 and they still use the traditional pueblo upright loom. Their earliest wool mantas, or shoulder blankets, were white or gray with broad horizontal stripes of black and/or indigo blue. (c.f. Wheat and Mera 1978, p.33; Wheat 1976, p.21) They were traded widely, but were especially so prized by the Ute Indians that they became known as "Ute blankets." They were the first step in the development of a style that has come to be known as "Chief's Blankets." Although the Dine (Navajo) have no "chiefs," the blankets were items of great prestige and very widely traded with Plains tribes where the name may have evolved. Mantas were essential items of clothing for both men and women. Vincent 1995a, p.58.

Physical dimensions:

length 48 in ; width 64 in

Format:

Blanket

Coverage:

Arizona ; Dine (Navajo)

American Indian Art

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