

WEAVING, MAYA – HUIPIL (BLOUSE)

OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

Repository:	Crandall Public Library. Folklife Center Glens Falls, NY.
Creator:	unknown
Title:	Weaving, Maya – Huipil (Blouse)
Dates:	1998
Quantity:	1 item
Identification:	Folk Art

NOTE

The huipil is a traditional blouse or tunic worn by Maya women. It is woven in two rectangular pieces that are stitched together. The designs around the neck and along the sleeve edge identify the town of the woman wearing it and the weaver who produced it. (Angela Weaves a Dream, by Michele Sola, p. 44).

Mayan weaving is done on a backstrap loom: a strap stretches behind the weaver's back and holds one end of the loom, while the other end is attached to a pole or tree. This type of loom produces relatively narrow strips of cloth, which are then sewn together to create garments. The elaborate designs are made by inserting colorful yarn between the warp threads as the weaver works the woof threads back and forth.

INDEX TERMS

Topics:	Weaving Clothing Maya clothing Maya weaving
Places:	Guatemala
Important People:	McDonald, Christine (collector)
Form/Genre:	realia

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Weaving, Maya – Huipil (Blouse)
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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS

This huipil is red with multicolored designs woven into the upper part of the garment. The lower portion is solid red. It measures about 27 inches from shoulder to hem, and 34 inches across. The yoke, or neck area, is decorated with strips of narrow rick-rack, and bound with machine woven ribbon. This ribbon also edges the sleeve openings.

This huipil was displayed as part of the Maya Celebration at the Folklife Center April 1 to June 30, 1998.