

Aboriginal stone axe



By Antoni

What is it ?

- An Aboriginal stone axe is something used for making canoes. They are also used for chopping down small trees. They are also used to butcher animals. These axes were also used as a weapon for fighting and killing animals. Stone axes are rare because there are not as many places to get the rocks that a stone axe needs.



What is it made of ?

- Aboriginal axes were made of stone that has been chipped from a larger stone. These stones are usually Chert, quartzite, silicate, spongolite and quartz. They are stuck in the ground. Aboriginal people made axes by striking large flakes of stone from rocky outcrops, then roughly shaping them. They carried axe blanks across great distances for trading. Axe blanks are pieces of stone that Aboriginal people chipped into a basic axe shape at stone quarries and sharpened by rubbing the edges over sandstone. This rubbing action left a mark in the outcrop surface. Aboriginal people often sprinkled water on the sandstone to make it more abrasive and to reduce dust. Aboriginal people made axes by striking large flakes of stone from rocky outcrops, then roughly shaping them. They carried axe blanks across great distances for trading. The axes were often finished away from the quarry. The tool maker would complete an axe by grinding to make a sharp cutting edge.



What is it used for ?

- Aboriginal people used axes to cut down small trees, chop wood, remove tree bark for canoes and shelters, butcher larger animals and undertake many other tasks. They also used axes as weapons.



How do people use a Aboriginal Stone axe now ?

- The Aboriginal stone axe is used as a link to the present and the past in the Aboriginal culture. Aboriginal stone axes are in parades. Stone axes are used to pass information.



Was it used by all the Aboriginal language groups ?

- Yes it was used by all the Aboriginal language groups. Stone axes are very helpful so all the tribes used it to butcher animals and kill animals. Axe-grinding grooves are an important link for Aboriginal people today with their culture and their past. Aboriginal axe-grinding grooves are rare. They provide valuable information about how stone tools were made.



What do people use for the same purpose?

- People use iron axes, chain saws and knives for the same purpose. People also use all the mechanical machines to do all the tasks that an Aboriginal stone axe would of done.

