
PAGODA RED



ETCHED STONE MORTAR

\$1,480

c. 1850 • Shandong, China • Limestone • Collection #U027

W: 16.5" D: 16.0" H: 16.5"

Essentially a utilitarian vessel, this mortar bears incised lines on the interior to facilitate the task of removing the outer husks from grains of rice. Yet it seems as if the Qing-dynasty artisan who carved the mortar from limestone became interested in the aesthetic potential of the lines, extending them to the exterior in a pleasing rhythmic pattern. Sculptural and textural, the mortar would look amazing planted with vines trailing down its rustic surface.



1740 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 • 773-235-1188 • info@pagodared.com

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