

QUIPU AS97

Museum identification: No. VA42553 (Museum Für Völkerkunde, Berlin)

Main cord: color B

§ 4.5 cm: group of 2 pendant cords (1-2), then space of 4.0 cm.

9.0 cm: group of 22 pendant cords (3-24), then space of 5.0 cm.

19.0 cm: group of 24 pendant cords (25-48), then space of 1.0 cm.

25.0 cm: group of 15 pendant cords (49-63), then space of 6.5 cm.

31.5 cm: pendant cord (64), then space of 175.0 cm.

206.5 cm: end ç

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
1	--	40.0	W	0	
2	--	60.0	W	0	
3	--	49.5	GØ/W (4.0/49.5)	0	
4	5L(20.0)	48.5ç	ØD:W/W (5.5/48.5)	5	
5	--	44.0ç	B/W (9.0/44.0)	0	
6	5L(20.0)	41.5ç	ØD:W/W (5.0/41.5)	5	
7	4L(21.5)	42.0ç	B/W (8.0/42.0)	4	
8	5L(21.0)	40.5ç	VB:W/W (8.5/40.5)	5	
9	1E(21.5)	47.5ç	B/W (9.0/47.5)	1	
10	5L(19.0)	40.5ç	ØD:W/W (4.5/40.5)	5	
11	1E(21.5)	43.0ç	B/W (7.5/43.0)	1	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
12	5L(20.0)	38.5¢	ØD:W/W (5.5/38.5)	5	
13	1E(20.0)	41.5¢	B/W (7.0/41.5)	1	
14	5L(20.5)	41.0¢	BG:W/W (5.5/41.0)	5	
15	1E(21.0)	44.0¢	GØ/W (4.0/44.0)	1	
16	5L(21.0)	45.5¢	BG:W/W (4.0/45.5)	5	
17	1E(21.5)	40.5	GØ/W (4.5/40.5)	1	
18	5L(21.5)	46.5¢	BG:W/W (3.5/46.5)	5	
19	1E(22.5)	55.0¢	GØ/W (5.5/55.0)	1	
20	5L(21.0)	37.0¢	VB:W/W (9.0/37.0)	5	
21	--	41.5¢	GØ/W (4.5/41.5)	0	
22	--	45.5¢	BG:W/W (6.5/45.5)	0	
23	--	61.0¢	GØ/W (9.0/61.0)	0	
24	--	56.5¢	BG:W/W (5.5/56.5)	0	
25	--	42.0	GØ/W (6.0/42.0)	0	
26	5L(18.5)	53.5¢	VB:W/W (6.0/53.5)	5	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
27	1E(18.5)	44.0¢	GØ/W (6.0/44.0)	1	
28	5L(18.5)	37.0¢	BG:W/W (5.5/37.0)	5	
29	2L(18.5)	42.0¢	GØ/W (5.5/42.0)	2	
30	5L(20.5)	52.0¢	VB:W/W (5.5/52.0)	5	
31	1E(18.5)	45.0¢	GØ/W (5.5/45.0)	1	
32	5L(20.0)	38.0¢	BG:W/W (5.5/38.0)	5	
33	1E(17.5)	48.5¢	GØ/W (8.0/48.5)	1	
34	5L(20.5)	32.0	VB:W/W (5.5/32.0)	5	
35	1E(19.0)	53.0¢	GØ/W (5.5/53.0)	1	
36	5L(19.5)	44.5	BG:W/W (5.0/44.5)	5	
37	1E(19.0)	44.0¢	GØ/W (5.5/44.0)	1	
38	5L(20.0)	40.0¢	BG:W/W (9.5/40.0)	5	
39	1E(18.0)	31.5	GØ/W (6.0/31.5)	1	
40	5L(19.0)	42.0	VB:W/W (9.0/42.0)	5	
41	1E(19.5)	53.0¢	GØ/W (7.0/53.0)	1	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
42	5L(19.0)	43.0¢	BG:W/W (6.0/43.0)	5	
43	1E(19.5)	49.5¢	GØ/W (6.0/49.5)	1	
44	5L(19.5)	35.5¢	BG:W/W (5.0/35.5)	5	
45	--	42.0¢	GØ/W (6.5/42.0)	0	
46	--	8.0b	BG:W/W (6.0/8.0)	?	
47	--	39.5¢	GØ/W (5.5/39.5)	0	
48	5L(20.0)	43.5¢	BG:W/W (6.0/43.5)	5	
49	1E(18.0)	42.0¢	BB:W/W (5.0/42.0)	1	
50	1E(18.5)	43.0¢	BB:W/W (4.5/43.0)	1	
51	1E(19.0)	45.5¢	BB:W/W (4.5/45.5)	1	
52	1E(18.5)	45.0¢	BB:W/W (4.5/45.0)	1	
53	1E(18.0)	41.5¢	BB:W/W (3.0/41.5)	1	
54	1E(18.0)	29.5¢	BB:W/W (4.0/29.5)	1	
55	1E(17.5)	28.5	BB:W/W (4.0/28.5)	1	
56	1E(18.5)	40.5¢	BB:W/W (4.5/40.5)	1	

Cord	Knots (no., type, position)	Length	Color	Value	Subsidiaries (no., position)
57	1E(17.5)	43.0ç	BB:W/W (4.5/43.0)	1	
58	1E(19.0)	45.5ç	BB:W/W (4.5/45.5)	1	
59	--	41.0	BB:W/W (5.0/41.0)	0	
60	--	43.0ç	BB:W/W (4.5/43.0)	0	
61	1E(18.5)	40.5ç	BB:W/W (6.0/40.5)	1	
62*	--	42.0ç	BB:W/W (4.5/42.0)	0	
63*	--	40.5	BB:W/W (4.5/40.5)	0	
64	--	44.0ç	B/W (8.0/44.0)	0	

Observations

- 1.* Pendants 62 and 63 are tied together at 25.5 cm.
2. Construction note: The colors of the pendants have been constructed by threading W pendants with other colors for the first 4.0-9.0 cm. of the pendant cord. Thus, near the main cord, the pendants differ in color but near the bottom they are all W.
3. This is one of several quipus acquired by the Museum in 1907 with provenance Pachacamac. The quipus with this designation are AS97, AS99, AS101-102, AS104, AS110-112, AS118-119, AS121, AS125, AS131, AS134, AS139, AS144-145, AS151, AS156, AS158, AS163, AS165, AS167, AS170, AS172, AS187-189.

4. By spacing, the quipu is separated into 4 groups of 2, 22, 24, and 15 pendants followed by a single pendant. Both pendants in group 1 are W and all in group 4 are BB:W/W. The color patterns in groups 2 and 3 can be expressed in several different ways. One way is: let

A denote the color pair $G\emptyset:W/W$, $VB:W/W$; A^{\sim} the pair B/W , $VB:W/W$;
 B is $G\emptyset:W/W$, $BG:W/W$; B^{\sim} is B/W , $BG:W/W$;
 C is $G\emptyset:W/W$, $\emptyset D:W/W$; C^{\sim} is B/W , $\emptyset D:W/W$.

Then group 2 has the pattern (ABABA) (BBABB) (BB) and group 3 has the pattern $(CC^{\sim}AC^{\sim}C^{\sim})$ (B^{\sim}) (BBABB).

5. The values on the quipu are restricted to 0, 1, 2, 4, 5. In group 1, both values are 0. In group 4, there are only values of 0 and 1. Groups 2 and 3 share the property that many of the values are 1 and 5 alternately. Specifically,

$$P_{2,2i} = 5 \quad i=1, \dots, 9 \quad ; \quad P_{2,2i-1} = 1 \quad i=4, \dots, 9$$

$$P_{3,2i} = 5 \quad i=1, \dots, 10 \quad ; \quad P_{3,2i-1} = 1 \quad i=4, \dots, 10.$$