



SPOTTED CAT HEADREST

\$980

c. 1900 • China • Ceramic • Collection #CMK078

W: 5.5" D: 13.5" H: 7.0"

To keep her elaborate hairstyle intact while sleeping, a well-to-do Qing-dynasty woman once used this ceramic headrest as a pillow. The headrest is shaped as a crouching house cat, with whiskers and fur playfully painted in with black, brown, and creme glaze, reminiscent of cizhou ware. Credited with a power to protect against evil spirits, perhaps for its ability to see in the dark, the cat is the ideal guardian for a headrest pillow, protecting its owner while she dreams.



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