

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A PROCESS FOR PRODUCING α -PHENYLETHYL ALCOHOL

According to a process for producing α -phenylethyl alcohol by hydrogenation of acetophenone, which uses a copper-based catalyst containing at least one alkaline earth metal carbonate and/or at least one alkali metal compound, the hydrogenolysis of starting acetophenone is inhibited, and hence the production of ethylbenzene as a by-product is reduced, so that it becomes possible to produce α -phenylethyl alcohol useful as a starting material for styrene with high selectivity.