

ABSTRACT

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- A process for purifying a crude polyether, comprising contacting a crude polyether obtained by addition
- 5 polymerizing an active hydrogen-containing compound with an alkylene oxide compound in the presence of an alkali metal-containing basic catalyst to an adsorbent comprising a synthesized hydrous magnesium silicate compound which satisfies the following requirements (1) to (5) in order to
- 10 reduce the alkali metal content of the crude polyether:
- (1) it is represented by the following formula I:
 $(\text{CaO})_x \cdot (\text{MgO})_y \cdot (\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3)_z \cdot \text{SiO}_2 \cdot m\text{H}_2\text{O}$ I
- wherein x, y, z and m satisfy the following ranges:
 $x < y$, $z < y$, $0 \leq x \leq 0.1$, $0.06 \leq y \leq 0.6$, $0 \leq z \leq 0.1$
- 15 and $0.1 \leq m \leq 1.5$,
- (2) it is amorphous according to the analysis of its powder method X-ray diffraction diagram,
- (3) it has a BET specific surface area of 100 to 400 m²/g,
- (4) it has an alkali metal content of 0.1 wt% or less, and
- 20 (5) it has an average particle diameter of 2 to 60 μm.

According to the present invention, a purified polyether having an extremely low content of an alkali metal can be obtained effectively.