

ABSTRACT

A method for producing a polyvinyl alcohol resin comprises a washing step of continuously washing polyvinyl alcohol particles, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol particles subjected to a first washing step are obtained by saponifying a polyvinyl ester using an alkali catalyst; in the first washing step, the polyvinyl alcohol particles are mixed with a first washing liquid containing 50% by mass or more of methanol and 0.1 to 10% by mass of an acid to form a slurry, and thus to reduce a content of the alkali catalyst residue in the polyvinyl alcohol particles; and in a second washing step, the slurry is brought into contact with a second washing liquid containing 50% by mass or more of methanol and having an acid concentration of less than 0.1% by mass to reduce an acid content in the polyvinyl alcohol particles. Thus, a method for producing a polyvinyl alcohol resin is obtained, whereby an alkali catalyst residue contained in the saponified PVA particles can be continuously and efficiently removed.