

ABSTRACT

Provided is a method for producing a polyvinyl alcohol having improved mechanical strength without significantly impairing productivity. A method for producing a polyvinyl alcohol having an average degree of polymerization of 5.0×10^3 or more and 1.5×10^4 or less, the method including steps of: subjecting a vinyl ester-based monomer to suspension polymerization at a polymerization temperature of 10 °C or more and 50 °C or less with a polymerization rate of 10% or more and 70% or less to obtain a vinyl ester-based polymer; dissolving the vinyl ester-based polymer in an alcohol-based solvent; and carrying out a saponification reaction by adding a saponification catalyst to an alcohol-based solution of the dissolved vinyl ester-based polymer.