

ABSTRACT

Provided is a membrane separation method to which a reverse osmosis method can be applied as a method for separating or concentrating a to-be-treated liquid having a high osmotic pressure or as a water recovery method. The membrane separation method for a to-be-treated liquid having an osmotic pressure according to the present invention includes a first step of separating the to-be-treated liquid into a first permeate and a first retentate by a reverse osmosis method using a loose RO membrane (50). The to-be-treated liquid satisfies $\pi_{Cb'} > \Delta P_{max}$ when an osmotic pressure of a to-be-treated liquid side membrane surface concentration Cb' is represented by $\pi_{Cb'}$ and a maximum operating pressure difference is represented by ΔP_{max} , or has an osmotic pressure of 5 MPa or more and 100 MPa or less. The loose RO membrane (50) is a membrane through which at least a part of a solute contained in the to-be-treated liquid passes together with a solvent.