CLAIMS

[Claim 1] A method of producing a carrier in which a large number of catalyst particles or adsorbent particles are carried on a surface of a metal base material made of aluminum or an aluminum alloy, the method comprising:

performing an etching process using an etchant containing iron chloride and a nitric acid on the surface of the metal base material made of aluminum or the aluminum alloy, to convert the surface to an uneven and rough surface;

performing an anodizing process on the uneven and rough surface of the metal base material, to form a porous coating along the uneven and rough surface; and

causing the large number of the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles to be carried on the surface of the metal base material on which the porous coating is formed along the uneven and rough surface, wherein

the carrier is a catalyst carrier or an adsorbent carrier.

[Claim 2] The method of producing the carrier according to claim 1, wherein

internal spaces of recesses at the uneven and rough surface are filled with the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles, thereby carrying the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles.

[Claim 3] A carrier in which a large number of catalyst particles or adsorbent particles are carried on a surface of a metal base material made of aluminum or an aluminum alloy, the carrier comprising:

an uneven and rough surface formed at the surface of the metal base material made of the aluminum or the aluminum alloy;

a porous coating formed along the uneven and rough surface; and

the large number of the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles carried on the surface of the metal base material on which the porous coating is formed along the uneven and rough surface, wherein

the uneven and rough surface has a large number of recesses with regions each having a shape of a part of an original surface of the metal base material, and

the carrier is a catalyst carrier or an adsorbent carrier.

[Claim 4] The carrier according to claim 3, wherein

internal spaces of the recesses at the uneven and rough surface are filled with the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles, thereby carrying the catalyst particles or the adsorbent particles.