

Catalysts

Chemistry

Homogeneous and heterogeneous, and the industrial examples.

Industrial catalysts worth knowing by name.

Process	Catalyst	Makes
Haber	Iron	Ammonia
Contact	Vanadium(V) oxide	Sulfuric acid
Catalytic cracking	Zeolite	Shorter alkanes, alkenes
Hydrogenation	Nickel	Margarine
Catalytic converter	Platinum, rhodium	Reduces exhaust pollutants

Heterogeneous catalysts work by adsorption onto active sites. Catalyst poisoning blocks those sites — which is why leaded petrol destroys