

activated carbon

A porous *carbon material*, a *char* which has been subjected to reaction with gases, sometimes with the addition of chemicals, e.g. ZnCl_2 , before, during or after *carbonization* in order to increase its adsorptive properties.

Notes:

Activated carbons have a large adsorption capacity, preferably for small molecules, and are used for purification of liquids and gases. By controlling the process of carbonization and activation, a variety of active carbons having different porosity can be obtained. Activated carbons are used mainly in granular and powdered forms, but can also be produced in textile form by controlled carbonization and activation of textile fibres. Other terms used in the literature: active carbons, active charcoals.

1995, 67, 476