

Cover Picture

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The cover picture shows the progress made in the development of separation techniques over the centuries. The retort and the distillation apparatus symbolize the repertoire of purification methods, which expanded only slightly from the foundations of chemistry to the 1980s. The automated synthesizer symbolizes the increasing demand for the automation of multiparallel techniques, which require simple work-up protocols. Thus, a large variety of specialized separation techniques has been developed. Today the spectrum contains, in addition to classical aqueous work-up, the use of ionic, perfluorinated, or supercritical liquids as well as the application of polymer- and dendrimer-supported separation strategies. An overview of the recent developments and applications of modern separation methods can be found in the Review by W. Bannwarth, R. Haag, et al. on p. 3964 ff.

