

# Magnetic Separation Encyclopedia Article

## Magnetic Separation

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# Magnetic Separation

An on-going problem of environmental significance is **solid waste** disposal. As the land needed to simply throw out solid wastes becomes less available, **recycling** becomes a greater priority in **waste management** programs. One step in recycling is the magnetic separation of ferrous (ironcontaining) materials. In a typical recycling process, wastes are first shredded into small pieces and then separated into organic and inorganic fractions. The inorganic fraction is then passed through a magnetic separator where ferrous materials are extracted. These materials can then be purified and reused as scrap iron.

## See Also

Iron Minerals; Resource Recovery