

# *What is Chromatography All About?*

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## 1. Summary

Chromatography is an example of a process by which a mixture is separated into at least two fractions with different compositions. Other separation methods exist, such as distillation, recrystallization, and extraction. Chromatography is used to analyze mixtures by identifying the components, determining the amount of each present, and in some cases, purifying the separate parts. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the basic principles of liquid chromatography, with demonstrations using food dyes. The first few slides provide background material that should help to provide a basis for understanding the chromatographic separation videos. This presentation is intended to provide a nontechnical introduction to chromatography, suitable for educational purposes.<sup>1</sup>

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