



HOFMANN ELECTROLYSIS APPARATUS

HEA001

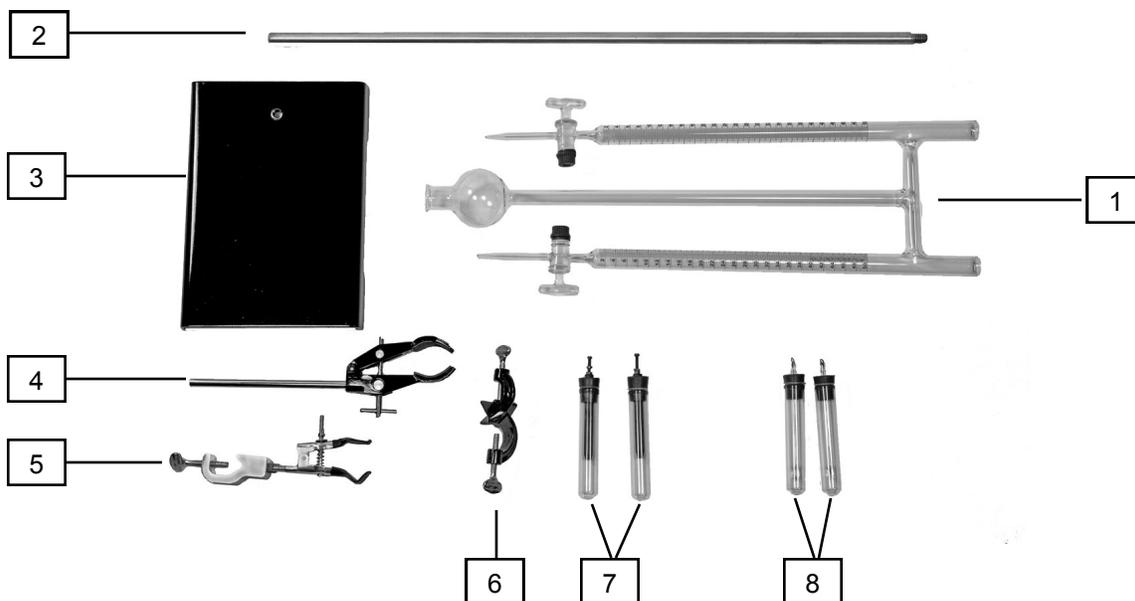


Figure 1

DESCRIPTION OF THE APPARATUS

This apparatus, introduced in 1866 by August Wilhelm von Hofmann, is designed for the electrolysis of water. Early electrical investigators used it to measure electric current before magnetic meters became available. The apparatus consists of two identical 50 ml burettes mounted parallel to one another with the stopcocks uppermost. The bottoms of the burettes are connected by a glass tube, which also carries a central tube with a thistle funnel for filling the apparatus with electrolyte and maintaining water pressure in the burettes. Electrodes mounted in rubber stoppers are fitted into the bottom of each burette. This set of apparatus includes platinum and carbon electrode pairs, as well as support material for the glassware, as detailed below.

IDENTIFICATION OF COMPONENTS

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|----|---|----|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Hofmann Apparatus glassware | 5. | Short extension clamp with boss |
| 2. | Support rod, 585 mm (24") | 6. | Right angle clamp |
| 3. | Steel base, 225 x 143 mm, (8 ⁷ / ₈ " x 6 ¹ / ₂ ") | 7. | Pair of carbon electrodes |
| 4. | Long extension clamp | 8. | Pair of platinum electrodes |