

## ABSTRACT

A magnetic recording medium that is capable of realizing both high magnetic permeability and antiferromagnetic coupling for a soft magnetic underlayer. Namely, a magnetic recording medium including at least a non-magnetic substrate on which is laminated a soft magnetic underlayer formed by antiferromagnetic coupling of a plurality of soft magnetic layers, and a perpendicular magnetic layer for which the axis of easy magnetization is oriented mainly perpendicularly to the non-magnetic substrate, wherein the soft magnetic layers contain Fe as a first main component, Co as a second main component, and also contain Ta, the soft magnetic underlayer is antiferromagnetically coupled using the second peak or a subsequently appearing peak of the antiferromagnetic coupling force, which changes according to the thickness of a spacer layer sandwiched between the plurality of soft magnetic layers, and the magnetic permeability of the soft magnetic underlayer is not less than 1,000 H/m.



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