

Magnetic Recording Medium, Method for Producing Magnetic Recording
Medium and Magnetic Recording/Reproducing Apparatus

ABSTRACT

A magnetic recording medium comprising a magnetic layer having a magnetic recording pattern comprising elevations constituting magnetic recording regions and depressions constituting boundary regions for partitioning the magnetic recording regions, and a continuous protective carbon overcoat on the magnetic layer, characterized in that portions of the carbon overcoat located on the magnetic recording regions-constituting elevations of the magnetic layer are thicker than portions of the carbon overcoat located on the boundary regions-constituting depressions of the magnetic layer. The protective carbon overcoat is formed by a CVD method. The boundary regions-constituting depressions are preferably subjected to exposure to plasma, and have modified magnetic characteristics. The magnetic recording regions exhibit high corrosion resistance and the magnetic recording medium has enhanced environmental resistance.

Fig. 1