

ABSTRACT

A perpendicular magnetic recording medium includes a magnetic recording layer 22 having a granular structure composed of crystal grains containing cobalt (Co) and grown in a columnar shape and a grain boundary portion comprising a nonmagnetic substance and formed between the crystal grains, and a continuous layer 24 of a thin film magnetically continuous in a film plane direction. The continuous layer 24 includes a plurality of layers 24a and 24b containing cobalt, chromium (Cr), and platinum (Pt). Among the layers, the layer 24a nearer to the magnetic recording layer has a greater chromium content.