

ABSTRACT

A phase plate having a reduced size and a reduced weight and having accurately parted regions while it has the same function as a conventional two-parted optical
5 rotation plate and an optical data recording/reproducing device capable of stably recording and reproducing are presented.

A phase plate P1 comprising a polymer liquid crystal film 2 held between transparent substrates 1, 4, wherein
10 the polymer liquid crystal film 2 is parted spatially in the region into which an incident light enters, so that the light transmitting the phase plate assumes a different state of polarization depending on an aligning direction of the molecules of the polymer liquid crystal
15 film 2. The phase plate is located as a two-parted optical rotation plate in an optical data recording/reproducing device.