CLAIMS:

1. A tape cassette comprising:

a cassette case having a top surface, a bottom surface, a front surface and a pair of side surfaces;

a tape that is a print medium and that is housed within the cassette case; and

an indicator portion that is provided in the front surface, and that includes at least one aperture in a predetermined pattern that corresponds to at least a tape width of the tape,

wherein

the cassette case guides the tape along a predetermined feed path and discharges the tape outside the cassette case from a tape discharge portion provided in the front surface, at least a portion of the feed path extending parallel to the front surface,

a width direction of the tape housed within the cassette case is generally parallel to a vertical direction in which the top surface and the bottom surface oppose each other,

a tape guide portion is provided on a downstream side along the feed path with respect to the tape discharge portion, the tape guide portion forming an exposing portion of the tape between the tape discharge portion and the tape guide portion, and guiding the tape discharged from the tape discharge portion, the exposing portion exposing a whole section in the width direction of the tape in a direction that faces the front surface, and

the indicator portion is provided in the front surface adjacent to the exposing portion of the tape, and the aperture included in the indicator portion extends generally parallel to the top surface and the bottom surface and perpendicular to the portion of the feed path extending parallel to the front surface.

2. The tape cassette in accordance with claim 1, wherein

a tape roll is rotatably housed within the cassette case, the tape roll being the tape that is wound, and

the cassette case guides the tape that is fed out from the tape roll along the feed path.

3. A tape cassette that can be installed in and removed from a cassette housing portion of a tape printer having a print head, the tape cassette comprising:

a cassette case having a top surface, a bottom surface, a front surface and a pair of side surfaces;

a tape that is a print medium and that is housed within the cassette case;

a head insertion portion that is a space into which the print head is inserted in a case where the tape cassette is installed in the tape printer, and that penetrates through the cassette case in a vertical direction and extends along the front surface;

an arm portion that includes an exit that opens to the head insertion portion, that guides feeding of the tape and that discharges the tape from the exit toward the head insertion portion; and

a cassette identification portion that is provided in a side wall that forms a part of the front surface in the arm portion and that, in a case where the tape cassette is installed in the cassette housing portion, opposes a plurality of detecting switches that protrude toward the front surface;

wherein

the cassette identification portion is a combination of identification portions, the identification portions respectively opposing the plurality of detecting switches and each being selectively provided, based on a predetermined pattern that corresponds to at least a tape width of the tape housed within the cassette case, as either one of an aperture through which the detecting switch is inserted and removed without being pressed and a non-aperture by which the detecting switch is pressed without being inserted or removed,

a width direction of the tape housed within the cassette case is generally parallel to the vertical direction in which the top surface and the bottom surface oppose each other, and

the cassette identification portion and the exit are provided adjacent to each other, and a whole section in the width direction of one surface of the tape that is discharged from the exit toward the head insertion portion and the combination of the

identification portions in the cassette identification portion are exposed at least in a direction that faces the front surface of the tape cassette.

4. The tape cassette in accordance with claim 3, wherein

a tape roll is rotatably housed within the cassette case, the tape roll being the tape that is wound, and

the arm portion guides the feeding of the tape that is fed out from the tape roll.

5. The tape cassette according to claim 3 or 4, wherein

the cassette identification portion includes a first area indicating the tape width among a plurality of elements that respectively indicate the type of the tape housed within the cassette case, and

the first area is formed by a same combination of the identification portions regardless of the type of the tape mounted within the cassette case, in a case where the tape width of the tape is the same.

6. The tape cassette according to claim 5, wherein the first area includes at least two of the identification portions and indicates the tape width of the tape with a combination of the two identification portions.

7. The tape cassette according to claim 5 or 6, wherein

the cassette identification portion includes a third area that is provided above or below the first area and that indicates the tape width together with the first area, and

in the third area, the identification portion is formed as the non-aperture in a case where the tape width of the tape housed within the cassette case is equal to or greater than a predetermined value, and the indicator portion is formed as the aperture in a case where the tape width of the tape housed within the cassette case is less than the predetermined value.

8. The tape cassette according to any one of claims 3 to 7, wherein the aperture is one of a through-hole and an indentation that is formed in the side wall.