

OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS AND DISK DRIVE APPARATUS

ABSTRACT

An optical pickup apparatus for recording and/or reading a signal to and from a signal recording layer of an optical disk by applying a light beam to the signal recording layer is provided to prevent a collision between the optical disk and an objective lens, and prevent and reduce damage of the signal recording layer of the optical disk. The optical pickup apparatus is provided with the objective lens for applying a light beam to the signal recording layer, a lens holder supporting the objective lens, and a coating layer formed on the disk side end face of the lens holder. The coating layer is formed of a material softer than the optical disk and having favorable slidability, and projected over the objective lens toward the optical disk.

Figure 1