Abstract of the Disclosure

A dividing apparatus for dividing a plate-like workpiece, which is put on the top surface of a protective tape affixed to an annular frame and has reduced strength along dividing lines, along the dividing lines, comprising:

a frame holding means for holding the annular frame;

a tape expansion means for expanding the protective tape affixed to the annular frame held on the frame holding means;

a detection means for detecting the plate-like workpiece put on the protective tape;

a dividing mean for pressing the dividing lines detected by the detection means, of the plate-like workpiece, via the protective tape to divide the plate-like workpiece into chips along the dividing lines;

a pushing-up means for pushing up the divided chips through the protective tape; and

a pick-up means for picking up the chips pushed up by the pushing-up means.