THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD

ABSTRACT

A thin-film magnetic head improves magnetic stability of a magnetoresistance effect film 13 for further stabilizing the playback output. The thin-film magnetic head has a magnetoresistance effect stabilizing layer 11, a non-magnetic layer 12 and a magnetoresistance effect layer 13 exhibiting the magnetoresistance effect. The magnetoresistance effect stabilizing layer 11 has a hard magnetic film and a soft magnetic film. The magnetoresistance effect stabilizing layer 11 has a non-magnetic film 11c of a non-magnetic material in at least a partial area between a hard magnetic film 11b and a soft magnetic film 11d. In the thin-film magnetic head, there is produced a stable magnetostatic coupling action between the magnetoresistance effect stabilizing layer 11 and the magnetoresistance effect layer 13 for increasing the magnetic stability of the magnetoresistance effect layer 13 operating as a magnetically sensitive portion.

Figure 5