

## Abstract

A perpendicular magnetic recording medium that exhibits excellent magnetic characteristics and electromagnetic conversion performance,  
5 at a low cost.

A perpendicular magnetic recording medium according to the present invention uses a granular magnetic layer and comprises a nonmagnetic underlayer of a metal or an alloy having hexagonal  
10 closest-packed (hcp) crystal structure and a seed layer of a metal or an alloy of face-centered cubic (fcc) crystal structure provided under the nonmagnetic underlayer. Such a perpendicular magnetic recording medium has been demonstrated to exhibit excellent magnetic characteristics even when the thickness of the underlayer  
15 or the total thickness of the underlayer and the seed layer is very thin. Because excellent magnetic characteristics can be obtained even if the step of preheating the substrate is omitted, a nonmagnetic substrate made of a plastic resin may be employed; and at the same time, cost reduction can be achieved due to simplification of the  
20 manufacturing process.

[Selected drawing]

Figure 1



\*G00002\*



\*162162\*