

ABSTRACT

A cutting method includes: forming a reformed region in a workpiece (1); and
after forming the reformed region in the workpiece (1), forming a groove (9) in the
5 workpiece (1) along an intended cut line. In the forming a groove (9), a first dry
etching process is performed from a front surface (3) toward a rear surface (4) of the
workpiece (1). After the first dry etching process, a first pressure-reducing process is
performed in which the workpiece (1) is placed under an atmosphere of reduced
pressure as compared to pressure during the first dry etching process. After the first
10 pressure-reducing process, a second dry etching process is performed from the front
surface (3) toward the rear surface (4) of the workpiece (1).