ABSTRACT

A method of raising a polishing head capable of preventing a workpiece from bending and preventing an excessive stress from generating in the workpiece by avoiding contact between the workpiece and a retainer ring when the polishing head is raised from a polishing pad after polishing of the workpiece is disclosed. The method includes: polishing the workpiece by pressing the workpiece against the polishing pad while rotating the polishing head and the polishing pad; stopping the rotations of the polishing pad and the polishing head; raising the retainer ring of the polishing head relative to the workpiece to separate the retainer ring from the polishing pad and moving the retainer ring to a position higher than the workpiece; and then raising the polishing head with the workpiece held on the polishing head.

FIG. 4