METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR PACKAGE CONTAINING CYLINDRICAL TYPE BUMP GRID ARRAY

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ABSTRACT
A method for manufacturing a semiconductor package comprising the steps of (a) forming a plurality of bumps on a metal frame and a bridge for connecting and supporting the bumps, (b) coating liquid solder on the bumps, (c) aligning the frame with respect to a semiconductor substrate where patterns are formed so that the bumps are positioned on the patterns, (d) soldering the bumps on the patterns, and (e) separating the bumps from the frame by breaking a connecting portion of the bumps and the bridge.

5 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR PACKAGE CONTAINING CYLINDRICAL TYPE BUMP GRID ARRAY

This is a division of application Ser. No. 09/221,598, filed Dec. 29, 1998, now abandoned all of which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a semiconductor package, and more particularly, to a bump grid array package which is an improvement of a ball grid array package, and a manufacturing method therefor.

2. Description of the Related Art

A general semiconductor package is manufactured by mounting a semiconductor chip on a pad or a substrate and molding the semiconductor chip using resin, with connection means electrically connected with an external circuit substrate being provided in the lower surface of the substrate.

Referring to FIG. 1 showing a ball grid array package 10 which is a kind of the semiconductor package, a semiconductor chip 11 is bonded on a substrate 12 of the package 10 by a bonding agent 12. Patterns 14 and 14a are formed on upper and lower surfaces of the substrate 12, respectively. The patterns 14 and 14a are electrically connected with each other through a throughhole 16 formed to penetrate the substrate 12. Also, the upper pattern 14 is wire-bonded to the semiconductor chip 11 by a bonding wire 15, and a solder ball 17 is provided on the lower pattern 14a.

Also, in order to protect the semiconductor chip 11 and the bonding wire 15, the semiconductor chip 11 and the bonding wire 15 are molded using epoxy resin 18. Here, a dam 19 is formed on a predetermined position of the substrate 12 so that the epoxy resin 18 may not spread too widely on the upper surface of the substrate 12.

In fabricating the ball grid array package 10, the solder ball 17 having a diameter of 0.75 mm or less is placed on the lower pattern 14a of the substrate 12 and then soldered at a high temperature to then be bonded to the lower pattern 14a.

However, when the solder ball 17 is aligned on the lower pattern 14a for bonding the same thereon, the solder ball 17 may move, which causes misalignment of the solder ball 17, generation of double balls due to neighboring balls sticking to each other, or missing balls.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

To solve the above problems, it is desirable to provide a method for manufacturing a stable semiconductor package by employing bumps which are cylindrical or whose cross-sectional shapes are constant and a frame for supporting the bumps, and the semiconductor package manufactured thereby.

Accordingly, there is provided a method for manufacturing a semiconductor package comprising the steps of (a) forming a plurality of bumps on a metal frame and a bridge for connecting and supporting the bumps, (b) coating liquid solder on the bumps, (c) aligning the frame with respect to a semiconductor substrate where patterns are formed so that the bumps are positioned on the patterns, (d) soldering the bumps on the patterns, and (e) separating the bumps from the frame by breaking a connecting portion of the bumps and the bridge.

Here, the step (a) comprises the steps of coating a photosensitive material on the metal frame, exposing the metal frame using a mask where patterns corresponding to the bumps and the bridge are formed, developing the metal frame, and etching the metal frame to form the bumps and the bridge.

Also, the method may further comprise the step of forming a notch at an end of the bridge connected to the bumps.

Alternatively, it is preferred that the method further comprises the step of half-etching the end of the bridge to form fracture portions at the end of the bridge connected to the bumps.

According to another aspect of the present invention, a semiconductor package comprising a substrate, a semiconductor chip mounted on the upper surface of the substrate, a first pattern formed on the upper surface of the substrate to be electrically connected with the semiconductor chip, a second pattern formed on the lower surface of the substrate to be electrically connected with the first pattern through throughholes formed to penetrate the substrate, and bumps which are cylindrical or whose cross-sectional shapes are constant, bonded on the second pattern.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above objective and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detail a preferred embodiment thereof with reference to the attached drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a conventional ball grid array package;

FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view illustrating a bump grid array package according to the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a plan view illustrating a metal frame having bumps employed in a semiconductor manufacturing method according to the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view illustrating the bumps and a bridge shown in FIG. 3;

FIGS. 5 through 7 are plan views illustrating various examples of a connecting portion of the bumps and the bridge;

FIG. 8 is a side view illustrating a process of coating liquid solder on the bumps according to the present invention; and

FIG. 9 is a side sectional view illustrating a state where the frame having bumps is aligned on a substrate.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to FIG. 2 showing a bump grid array package 20 according to the present invention, a semiconductor chip 21 is bonded on a substrate 23 by an adhesive 22, and patterns 24a and 24b are formed on upper and lower surfaces of the substrate 23, respectively. The upper pattern 24a is electrically connected with the semiconductor chip 21 by a bonding wire 25. The lower pattern 24b is electrically connected with the upper pattern 24a through a plurality of throughholes 26 formed to penetrate the substrate 23.

Also, in order to protect the semiconductor chip 21 and the bonding wire 25, they are molded using epoxy resin 28. Here, a dam 29 is formed at a predetermined position of the substrate 23 so that the epoxy resin 28 may not spread on the upper surface of the substrate 23 too widely.

According to the features of the present invention, a plurality of cylindrical bumps 31 are bonded on the lower pattern 24b. The shapes of the bumps 31 are preferably cylindrical. However, the shapes of the bumps 31 are not
limited to cylindrical shapes. The only restriction is that the
cross-sectional shapes thereof have to be constant. In other
words, the shapes and sizes of the bumps 31 have to be the
same with one another.

Now, the method for bonding the bumps 31 will be
described.

The bumps 31, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4, are formed in
a metal frame 40. In other words, the plurality of bumps 31
are connected to a bridge 32 integrally formed with the
frame 40 to then be supported. A guide slot 40a and a guide
hole 40b are formed in the frame 40 for alignment of the
bumps 31. The frame 40 is preferably formed of copper
having excellent heat conductivity for facilitating soldering.

The method for forming the bumps 31 in the frame 40 will
be described. First, a degrading operation for removing
foreign matter on the surface of the frame is performed using
an acid or alkaline solution, and then photore sist which is a
photosensitive material is coated on the surface of the frame
40.

Subsequently, the upper and lower surfaces of the frame
40 are exposed to light using a mask having a pattern
corresponding to the bumps 31 and the bridge 32 connecting
the bumps 31. If the exposure is completed, the photore sist
is developed and then the frame 40 is etched.

In such a manner, the plurality of cylindrical bumps 31
and the bridge 32 connected with the bumps and supporting
the same are formed in the frame 40. Preferably, a notch 33
is formed in a connecting portion between the bumps 31 and
the bridge 32, which is for easily separating the bumps
bonded on the lower pattern 24b of the substrate 23 from the
bridge 32, as to be described later. As described above, the
shapes of the bumps 31 are not limited to cylindrical ones
and the only restriction is that the cross-sectional shapes
thereof have to be constant. Alternatively, the notch 33 can
be formed by performing a secondary etching separately
after the primary etching for forming the bumps 31 and the
bridge 32.

To facilitate separation of the bumps 31 and the bridge 32,
in addition to the notch 33, a fracture portion 34a can be
formed by half-etching the overall end of the bridge 32, as
shown in FIG. 5.

Also, as shown in FIGS. 6 and 7, fracture portions 34b and
34c may be formed by half-etching the center or edges of the
end of the bridge 32.

Hereinbelow, the method for bonding the bumps 31 on the
lower pattern 24b of the substrate 23 using the frame 40
formed with bumps 31 will be described.

The frame 40 having the bumps 31 is submerged in a
coating basin 51 containing liquid solder S to then be coated
therewith, as shown in FIG. 8. When the liquid solder S is
coated on both the bumps 31 and the bridge 32, the liquid
solder S coated on the bridge 32 conglomerates by surface
tension so that the liquid solder S coated on the bumps 31
does not become uniform. To solve such a problem, only the
bumps 31 exclusive of the bridge 32 are submerged in the
liquid solder S so that the liquid solder S is coated on only
parts of the bumps 31.

Then, the frame 40 in which the liquid solder S is coated
on the bumps 31 is Maligned on the lower surface of the
substrate 23, as shown in FIG. 9, so that the bumps 31 are
positioned on the lower pattern 24b. The alignment of the
frame 40 with respect to the substrate 23 can be achieved by
coupling the guide slot 40a and guide hole 40b formed in the
frame 40 to an alignment member (not shown).

If the alignment of the frame 40 on the substrate 23 is
completed, soldering is performed at a high temperature for
the bumps 31 to be bonded on the lower pattern 24b.

Next, if the bumps 31 are completely bonded on the
pattern 24b, the notch (33 of FIG. 4) or the fracture portion
(34a of FIG. 5) is broken, thereby separating the bumps 31
from the bridge 32. In such a manner, the bridge 32 and the
frame 40 can be removed.

According to the semiconductor package of the present
invention and the manufacturing method therefor, a plurality
of bumps can be simultaneously bonded on a pattern using
a frame in which the plurality of bumps are connected by a
bridge. Also, the frame can be easily aligned with respect to
a substrate and the bumps are bonded by soldering while
being supported to the frame, misalignment of the bumps or
missing bumps are not produced. Therefore, the manufactur-
ing process becomes simplified, defective proportion is
reduced, and reliability of the semiconductor package is
increased.

What is claimed is:
1. A method for manufacturing a semiconductor package
comprising the steps of:
(a) forming a metal frame having a bridge connected to a
plurality of bumps such that each of the bumps is
supported by the metal frame;
(b) coating liquid solder on the bumps;
(c) aligning the frame with respect to a semiconductor
substrate where patterns are formed so that the bumps
are positioned on the patterns;
(d) soldering the 40s on the patterns; and
(e) separating the bumps from the frame by breaking a
connecting portion from the bridge.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step (a)
comprises the steps of:
coating a photosensitive material on the metal frame;
exposing the metal frame using a mask where patterns
corresponding to the bumps and the bridge are formed;
developing the metal frame; and
etching the metal frame to form the bumps and the bridge.
3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
the step of forming a notch at an end of the bridge connected
to the bumps.
4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising
the step of half-etching the end of the bridge to form fracture
portions at the end of the bridge connected to the bumps.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein in the step
(b), the liquid solder is coated on only a part of the bumps.