

SATPREP  
Summary of Conic Section

Conic Section	Standard Form	Other Info.
<b>Circle</b> Centre $(h, k)$ Radius $r$	$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$	Derived from the distance formula.
<b>Parabola</b> - Vertex $(h, k)$ Focus $(h, k + p)$ Directrix at $y = k - p$  Foci $(h + p, k)$ Directrix at $x = h - p$	$(x-h)^2 = 4p(y-k)$  $(y-k)^2 = 4p(x-h)$	$p > 0$ opens up, $p < 0$ opens down  $p > 0$ opens right, $p < 0$ opens left
<b>• Ellipse</b> - Centre $(h, k)$  • Horizontal major axis: $a > b$ Vertices: $(h \pm a, k)$ Foci: $(h \pm c, k)$  • Vertical major axis: $a > b$ Vertices: $(h, k \pm a)$ Foci: $(h, k \pm c)$	$\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1$  $\frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} = 1$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The longer axis is called the major axis, the shorter axis is called the minor axis.</li> <li>'a' is the distance from the centre to each vertex (the end of the major axis).</li> <li>'b' is the distance from the centre to the end of the minor axis.</li> <li>'c' is the distance from the centre to each focus.  <math>c^2 = a^2 - b^2</math></li> <li>Length of major axis = <math>2a</math></li> <li>Length of minor axis = <math>2b</math></li> </ul>
<b>• Hyperbola</b> - Centre $(h, k)$  • Horizontal transverse axis (x coefficient is positive) Vertices: $(h \pm a, k)$ Foci: $(h \pm c, k)$ Asymptote: $y - k = \pm \frac{b}{a}(x - h)$  • Vertical transverse axis (y coefficient is positive) Vertices: $(h, k \pm a)$ Foci: $(h, k \pm c)$ Asymptote: $y - k = \pm \frac{a}{b}(x - h)$	$\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1$  $\frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} - \frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} = 1$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'a' is the distance from the centre to each vertex.</li> <li>'b' is a point on the conjugate axis but is not a point on the hyperbola (it helps determine asymptotes)</li> <li>'c' is the distance from the centre to each focus.  <math>c^2 = a^2 + b^2</math></li> <li>N.B. The transverse axis is <u>not necessarily</u> the longer axis but is associated with whichever variable is positive.</li> </ul>