

Focus and Directrix to Vertex Form

Write an equation of the parabola given the focus and directrix:

$$y = a(x-h)^2 + k$$

	Focus	Directrix	Vertex (h,k)	a	Vertex Form
1	(0,8)	y=2 2p=10 p=5	(0,3)	a = 1/4p = 1/20 a = 1/4(5)	y = 1/20(x-0)^2 + 3 y = 1/20(x)^2 + 3
2	(-3,2)	y=4 2p=6 p=3	(-3,-1)	a = 1/4p = 1/12 a = 1/4(3)	y = 1/12(x+3)^2 - 1
3	(5,2)	y=8 2p=6 p=3	(5,5)	a = 1/4p = 1/12 a = 1/4(3)	y = 1/12(x-5)^2 + 5
4	(4,-7)	y=5 2p=12 p=6	(4,-1)	a = 1/4(6) = 1/24 a = -1/24	y = -1/24(x-4)^2 - 1
5	(-4,1)	y=3 2p=4 p=2	(-4,-1)	a = 1/4(2) = 1/8	y = 1/8(x+4)^2 - 1
6	(9,0)	y=13 2p=13 p=6.5	(9,-6.5)	a = 1/4(6.5) = 1/26 a = +1/26	y = 1/26(x-9)^2 - 6.5
7	(2,25)	y=-1.75 2p=2 p=1	(2,-.75)	a = 1/4(1) = 1/4	y = 1/4(x-2)^2 - .75
8	(.5,3)	y=2.5 2p=.5 p=.25	(.5,2.75)	a = 1/4(.25) = 1/16	y = 1/16(x-.5)^2 + 2.75
9	(-1,2)	y=-5 2p=7 p=3.5	(-1,-1.5)	a = 1/4(3.5) = 1/14 a = 1/14	y = 1/14(x+1)^2 - 1.5
10	(-.25,1)	y=1.25 2p=1/4 p=1/8	(-.25,1.125)	a = 1/4(1/8) = -2	y = -2(x+.25)^2 + 1.125

Use the information provided to write the vertex form equation of each parabola.

- 1) Vertex at origin, Focus: $(0, -\frac{1}{32})$ Vertex (h,k) $(0,0)$
 $y = a(x-h)^2 + k$
 $y = -8(x-0)^2 + 0$
 $y = -8x^2$
- 2) Vertex at origin, Focus: $(0, \frac{1}{8})$ Vertex $(0,0)$
 $a = \frac{1}{4p}$
 $a = \frac{1}{4(\frac{1}{8})} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{8}{1} = 2$
 $y = 2(x-0)^2 + 0$
 $y = 2x^2$
- 3) Vertex at origin, Directrix: $y = \frac{1}{4}$ Vertex $(0,0)$
 $y = -1(x-0)^2 + 0$
 $y = -x^2$
- 4) Vertex at origin, Directrix: $y = -\frac{1}{8}$ Vertex $(0,0)$
 $a = \frac{1}{4p}$
 $a = \frac{1}{4(\frac{1}{8})} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{8}{1} = 2$
 $y = 2(x-0)^2 + 0$
 $y = 2x^2$