

Steps to determine which conic you have:

1) Look for squared terms...

If there's only one, it's a *parabola!*If there's two, make sure they're both on the same side of the equation and keep going.

2) Look at the signs of the squared terms...

If they have different signs, it's a *hyperbola!*If they have the same signs, go to the next step.

3) Look at the coefficients in front of the squared terms...

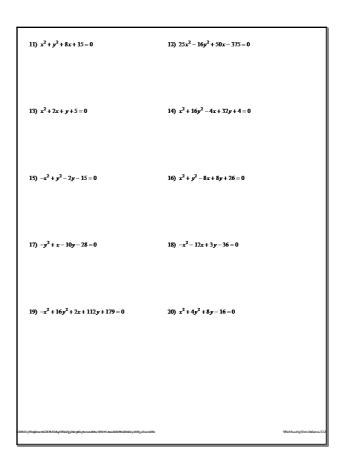
If they are the same, it's a *circle!*If they are different, it's an *ellipse!* 

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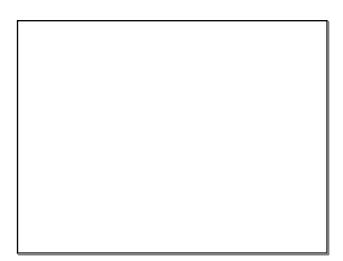
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y^2 + x + 12y + 40 = 0 Parabola
Example 1:
Example 2: -x^2 + y^2 + 6x + 6y + = 0 Hyperbola
             9x^2 - 4y^2 + 16y - 52 = 0 Hyper bola
Example 3:
             x^2 + y^2 + 4x - 6y + 4 = 0 Circle
Example 4:
        25: 5y<sup>2</sup> = -8x<sup>2</sup> - 16x + 192

**Note: The squared terms
Example 5:
        MUST be on the same side of
        the equal sign before you can
         go through all steps.
            2y^2 + 4x = -2x^2 - 6x + 8
Example 6:
              3x + 4x^2 = y - 8 Parabola
Example 7:
              3x^2 + 5x^2 = -x + y - 9
Example 8:
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