The **parabola** is the curve formed from all the points (x, y) that are equidistant from the directrix and the focus. The line perpendicular to the directrix and passing through the focus (that is, the line that splits the **parabola** up the middle) is called the "axis of symmetry".



The equation

of the parabola

 y2 = 4ax

 focus = (a, 0)

Vertex =(0,0)

Length of the Latus rectum = 4a

Tangent at the vertex x=0

Directrix x= -a

Axis y=0