

Precalculus, Section 9.1, #68
Polar Coordinates

The letters x and y represent rectangular coordinates. Write each equation using polar coordinates (r, θ) .¹

$$x^2 + y^2 = x$$

We know $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ and $x = r \cos(\theta)$. Substituting,

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + y^2 &= x \\ r^2 &= r \cos(\theta)\end{aligned}$$

if $r \neq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{r} \cdot r^2 &= \frac{1}{r} \cdot r \cos(\theta) \\ r &= \cos(\theta)\end{aligned}$$

¹Sullivan, *Precalculus: Enhanced with Graphing Utilities*, p. 568, #68.