

Case 3: $n = 3q + 2$

$$n^2 = (3q + 2)^2 \quad \text{by substitution}$$

$$= 9q^2 + 12q + 4$$

$$= 9q^2 + 12q + 3 + 1$$

$$= 3(3q^2 + 4q + 1) + 1$$

$$\text{Let } k = 3q^2 + 4q + 1$$

Then k is an integer because it's the sum and product of integers

Therefore $n^2 = 3k + 1$ by substitution

Hence there is an integer k such that $n^2 = 3k + 1$