Type of Graph	Equations	Properties	Example
Spiral	$r = a\theta$	Begins at the origin spiraling outward in a counter-clockwise direction, crossing the polar axis at $(2\pi a k, 0)$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, 3,$	$r = \frac{1}{3}\theta \text{ with } 0 \le \theta \le 6\pi$
Circles	$r = a$ $r = 2a\sin\theta$ $r = 2a\cos\theta$	If $r=a$ , then a circle with radius $ a $ centered at $(0,0)$ If $\sin\theta$ , then a circle with radius $ a $ centered at $(0,a)$ If $\cos\theta$ , then a circle with radius $ a $ centered at $(a,0)$	$r = 6\sin\theta$
Lines	$\theta = \theta_0$	A line passing through the origin with slope $m\!=\! an heta_0^{}$	$\theta = \frac{\pi}{5}$

Type of Graph	Equations	Properties	Example
Lemniscates	$r^2 = a^2 \sin \theta$ $r^2 = a^2 \cos \theta$	If $\sin\theta$ , then two loops along the $y=x$ line each having a radius $ a $ If $\cos\theta$ , then two loops along the $y=0$ line each having a radius $ a $	$r^2 = 25\sin(2\theta)$
Limaçons Inner Loop (a < b) Cardioid (a = b) Dimple (a > b)	$r = a \pm b \sin \theta$ $r = a \pm b \cos \theta$	If $+b\sin\theta$ then extends upward, if $-b\sin\theta$ then extends downward; has $y$ -intercepts at $(0,b\pm a)$ ; has $x$ -intercepts at $(\pm a,0)$ ; inner loop and cardioid also cross through origin If $+b\cos\theta$ then extends right, if $-b\cos\theta$ then extends left; has $x$ -intercepts at $(b\pm a,0)$ ; has $y$ -intercepts at $(0,\pm a)$ ; inner loop and cardioid also cross through origin	$r = 2 - 3\cos\theta$
Roses	$r = a \sin(n\theta)$ $r = a \cos(n\theta)$	If $sin(n\theta)$ , then no petals on either axis if $n$ is even or 1 petal on $y$ -axis if $n$ is odd (alternates $+y$ or $-y$ for incrementally odd values)  If $cos(n\theta)$ , then first petal on positive $x$ -axis  # of petals: if $n$ is odd then $n$ petals, if $n$ is even then $2n$ petals	$r = 6\cos(5\theta)$