Exercise 43

In Exercises 41–58, find any intercepts and test for symmetry. Then sketch the graph of the equation.

$$y = 9 - x^2$$

Solution

To find the y-intercept, plug x = 0 into the function.

$$y = 9 - (0)^2 = 9$$

Therefore, the y-intercept is (0,9). To find the x-intercept(s), set y=0 and solve the equation for x.

$$9 - x^2 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 9$$

$$x = \{-3, 3\}$$

Therefore, the x-intercepts are (-3,0) and (3,0). Replacing x with -x does not change the equation, so there is symmetry with respect to the y-axis.

$$y = 9 - (-x)^2 = 9 - x^2$$

Replacing y with -y changes the equation, so there's no symmetry with respect to the x-axis.

$$-y = 9 - x^2 \quad \to \quad y = -9 + x^2$$

Replacing x with -x and y with -y changes the equation, so there's no symmetry with respect to the origin.

$$-y = 9 - (-x)^2 = 9 - x^2 \rightarrow y = -9 + x^2$$

A graph of the function versus x is shown below.

