

At the point (a, a^2) , the slope of the tangent line to $y = x^2$ is $2a$, so the perpendicular line has a slope of $-\frac{1}{2}a$.

So the equation of this line is

$$y = -\frac{1}{2}ax + b$$

for a value of b to determine.

Since the line goes through (a, a^2) we have:

$$a^2 = -\frac{1}{2}a \cdot a + b$$

so

$$a^2 = -\frac{1}{2}a^2 + b$$

and

$$b = a^2 + \frac{1}{2}a^2 = \frac{3}{2}a^2$$

So the equation of the line is

$$y = -\frac{1}{2}ax + \frac{3}{2}a^2$$