

The slope of the curve $y = c\sqrt{x}$ is $y' = \frac{c}{2\sqrt{x}}$ and the slope of the tangent line $y = \frac{7}{4}x + 7$ is $\frac{7}{4}$. These must be equal at the point of tangency $(a, c\sqrt{a})$, so $\frac{c}{2\sqrt{a}} = \frac{7}{4} \Rightarrow c = \frac{7}{2}\sqrt{a}$. The y -coordinates must be equal at $x = a$, so $c\sqrt{a} = \frac{7}{4}a + 7 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{7}{2}\sqrt{a}\right)\sqrt{a} = \frac{7}{4}a + 7 \Rightarrow \frac{7}{2}a = \frac{7}{4}a + 7 \Rightarrow a = 4$. Since $c = \frac{7}{2}\sqrt{a}$, we have $c = \frac{7}{2}\sqrt{4} = 7$.