



Wednesday October 15, 2014

Greetings!

Does Join-Up work if you try to do it outside of a round pen? Is it safe to do Join-Up in a field with multiple horses? Why do horses move in circles? Monty answers all these questions in his Question and Answer column below!



MONTY ANSWERS

Question:
I am just emailing you to inquire on your Join-Up concept that I did with my young Arabian mare at home. I watched some of [your videos on Join-Up](#) and decided I would give it a go with my horse because I am really interested in natural horsemanship and creating that bond with my horse that I see in your videos and clinics.

However I don't have a round yard at my house so I decided I would do it in our large 10 acre paddock full of cows and other horses. I didn't know if it would work, especially seeing as I hadn't ridden or interacted with my horse much lately due to school requirements and also because we haven't done anything like this before so I didn't know if she would understand what I was trying to do, what with my lack of understanding of natural horsemanship so far.

But it did work. I chased after her without even a rope and she took off but instead of bolting to the opposite side of the paddock like I thought she would, she stayed circling around me in a really prance-y/dance-y way. Then after five minutes she stopped and faced me and drew herself up and snorted really loud at me and I turned and jogged off and she followed me around the paddock.

It was the most magical and amazing thing I had ever felt in my life.

I guess my question is, how come it worked so well in the paddock? Why did she stay around me in a circle of probably a diameter of 30m? She listened to my every command, as soon as I took the tiniest step in front of her she immediately turned and bolted the other way. Does the fact that it worked, and so easily too, mean we already have quite a strong bond/partnership developed already? Was she maybe playing with me and understanding what I was trying to teach her?

I am currently doing a school research project on how natural horsemanship has been formed and is trained so that it strengthens and creates bonds between horse and rider. How exactly does Join-Up help that?

If you are able to reply that would mean a great deal to me and would help me a lot. You are of great inspiration to me and I hope to one day have such a great understanding of these magnificent horses.

Thank you and kind regards,
Riley Brooks

Answer:

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Monty's Principles

Join-Up with a Juvenile Moose

Dear Mr. Roberts,

I feel that I should tell you of this experience because it is so relevant and recent.

This happened last Friday, October 3, 2014 in the late afternoon.

My husband and son were taking a walk to check the fence along our land.

They saw "something" hanging on the barbed wire up ahead.

It turned out to be a baby moose with its hind legs caught very badly in the wire so that its hind quarters were up in the air and its front was down near the grass but, it would not lay its head on the ground.

It was a female.

My husband and son tried to loosen the wire but it was a terrible snarl. My son ran to get the wire cutters as they had forgotten them. This was probably due to the fact that they had had to just put down our family dog and they were upset. Usually they would have been more organized.

My husband stayed with the wee one and waited. He tried to calm her but to no avail.

He was fearful of the bear and the coyotes and wolves in the area, not to mention a wolverine or two. The poor wee thing would cry out when they tried to move the wire so they

Dear Riley,

Thank you very much for a fantastic response to your early attempts to communicate with your horse. Obviously I don't advise people to do Join-Up when there is a group of other horses in the field. The reason for my hesitation here is that of safety. If a student is paying attention to a given horse, it's hard to pay equal attention to all of the others. Distractions like cattle are also a challenge under normal circumstances. The fact is, however, that it worked for you under difficult conditions.

There is a high probability that your horse did not respond because of a bond already formed between yourself and your horse. The fact is that your horse was simply communicating in its language. On this day your horse found you to be using the same gestures that I have found to be effective in the communications effort with equus. I do not jog away from my horse to get Join-Up but since you did and it worked, I tend to believe that it was a rare occurrence. Walking relaxed is usually more effective.

Your horse traveled in circles because horses live in circles. It would be a bit difficult to explain in an answer like this but circling is a critical element in the survival instincts of horses in general. I remember in the early days when people said to me that the wild horses would just run away and when I suggested that they lived in round pens in the wild, it was greeted with considerable criticism. The fact is that horses do live in large round circles even in the wild. You have witnessed this phenomenon.

I am proud of you for your success but particularly your interest and the decision you made to give it a try. Please continue to follow my work and communicate periodically because I'll bet you that you will discover something you could teach me along the way. The horses will benefit.

At this point in time I am in my 80th year and I am still learning. It is true that in recent years my students have brought me many discoveries they have made which have become helpful to me. I find that these individuals recommend about 10 to 20 ideas before they come up with one that is worthwhile. The fact is, however, that the journey to discover better ways is one that should be encouraged by every teacher no matter what the subject of study involves. Thank you so much for your work.

Sincerely,
Monty

THIS WEEK IN MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNI

THIS WEEK ON EQUUS ONLINE...



REWARD AND REVERSE:
ADDING OBSTACLES FOR ADVANCED LEVEL SKILLS

EQUUS
ONLINE UNIVERSITY

What's the latest training protocol in Monty's tool kit? He calls it, 'reward and reverse'. Find out more in this week's video lesson on [Equus Online University!](http://www.montyrobertsuniversity.com)

GO STRAIGHT
TO THE VIDEO



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succeeded in cutting it off in bits.

HERE IS THE IMPORTANT PART

She was so frantic and afraid, her eyes were wild and she was thrashing with her front feet.

My son sent his father to her head for fear that he would get kicked once the hind feet were loose.

At the sight of him coming near her head she be-came more afraid and thrashy.

Background: I have just had a stroke and in an attempt to get back to reading useful things, I read your book "The Man Who Listens to Horses". Then I read it a second time and told my husband all about it.

Back to the story.

It came to my husband to try a version of your Equus and so he got down on all fours and kept his eyes away, and pretended to graze as he approached her head.

Immediately she calmed right down and quit thrashing.

He stroked her where she could see what he was doing and our son was able to get the hind feet free!

Afterwards she kept trying to get up, but could only paddle her legs in the air.

Perhaps they had gone asleep.

By this time she seemed to trust my husband enough that he could get his arms about her and help hoist her onto her feet.

Once he got her up he thought "Holy Smoke! She is taller than me!!!"

She ran off a few paces and then relieved her bladder of a huge quantity of pee.

Then looking coyly (my husband's word) over her shoulder she shook her booty and ran off.

My husband says that he feels this was a special gift to him since he was feeling

bad about our dog. Your Equus was in his mind so that he could help, and he has had a very special experience; hugging a wild moose!

Thank you so much for writing your book. The moose thanks you too.

Sincerely,
Sharon Sargent

Monty's Challenge



Test yourself each week as I challenge you to answer the question below. I mean this. Sit down and write an answer. Don't wait for my answer next week. If you have been reading my Weekly Questions and Answers for the last six months, you

GLOBE GALLOPING WITH MONTY ROBERTS

NEW! Win tickets to see Monty in Germany:

<https://www.facebook.com/montyroberts.tournee/photos/a.304476666367740.1073741828.301350356680371/398380473644025/?type=1&theater>

Have some fun with Monty! Go to: www.facebook.com/MontyRoberts

October 16, 2014	Arena UK , Allington, Lincolnshire, NG32 2EF	UK
October 18, 2014	Myerscough College , Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY	UK
October 22, 2014	The Grange , Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3DA	UK
October 24, 2014	Hartpury College , Gloucester, GL19 3BE	UK
October 30, 2014	Greenlands EC , Wreay, Carlisle, Cumbria CA4 0RR	UK
November 1, 2014	Gleneagles , Auchterarder, Perthshire, PH3 1NF	UK
November 8, 2014	Hessisches Landgestüt , Dillenburg	DE
November 15, 2014	Gestüt Tannenhof , Heidenrod-Watzelhain (bei Wiesbaden)	DE
December 1-5, 2014	Monty's Special Training at Flag Is Up Farms in English and Portuguese. Contact admin@montyroberts.com for more info	USA
March 14, 2015	Monty demonstration at Camp Verde in Arizona. Click here!	USA



For information about Monty's worldwide demos and the courses held at Monty's farm in California go to: http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/see-monty/

Now Playing: Youth Coach Hannah Campbell Zapletal, Denise Heinlein on Ground Manners, Sheila Varian Trainer's Tip



[The Horsemanship Radio Show](#) is an online radio show (podcast) dedicated to the exploration of good horsemanship throughout the world. Hosted by Debbie Loucks (Monty Roberts' daughter), the show includes segments, tips and interviews exploring good horsemanship.

Youth Coach Hannah Campbell Zapletal, Denise Heinlein on Ground Manners, and Sheila Varian with a Trainer's Tip

The future of good horsemanship is being shaped by our three guests, having influenced thousands of riders, owners and breeders. Hannah Campbell Zapletal has taught over 3500 youth in the Southeast United States. Denise Heinlein, who has trained horses in five countries, is a talented rider who stresses ground manners for building good relationships with your horse. Cowgirl Hall of Famer Sheila Varian is a legend Arabian breeder.

Listen in...

<http://www.horsemanshipradio.com/2014/09/30/horsemanship-radio-episode-25-by-index-fund-advisors-ifa-com-youth-coach-hannah-campbell-zapletal-denise-heinlein-on-ground-manners-sheila-varian-trainers-tip/>

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SUCCEED: Digestive Health

"I have believed for years that digestive health has a major impact on a horse's happiness

should be in a position to do this. Send your answer to my team at: askmonty@montyroberts.com

Why should you bother? Because it will help you focus. There is probably a comparable question in your life that needs answering - or will be. If you can gain insight into how to go about answering a practical question that is loosely related to your problem, this exercise will help you answer your nagging question. Then read my answer. I want all of my students to learn to be better trainers than me. That's good for you and good for horses!

~ Monty

Next Week's Question:

Mr. Roberts, I have used many of your methods on many different horses with much success. I have recently adopted a neglected and abused appaloosa X. He has gained a significant amount of weight in the short time I have had him and has gotten way better with human contact.

The day I brought him home he could not be touched. He now trusts me enough to let me rub his whole body and I have trimmed his hooves with almost no issues. He is still hard to catch (even in a stall) because he is scared of movements towards him. I'm assuming this is because he was beaten from his past owners (he was also locked in a trailer and starved). When I do catch him to lead him out to pasture he is very pushy. I want to start the process of join up with him but I am not sure how to approach it. I'm afraid he will find me too aggressive and try to jump the round pen (he has tried to jump gates already) or be more scared of me before he understands what I'm trying to do. I've trained many different types of horses using join up but I've never dealt with a severely abused one. I am looking for tips and advice on what my next step should be. Thank you very much!
Liesl Nowlan

Monty's Life Lessons

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Ask Monty readers' special:

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Monty on HRTV



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I have believed for years that digestive health has a major impact on a horse's happiness, performance and overall well-being. Just by owning and riding horses, we take them out of their natural environment. We keep them in stalls, we feed them grain, and we exercise them. All of this works against the horse's digestive health.



Please check local TV directories for your time and channel or the HRTV website where times are in Eastern Standard Time:

www.hrtv.com/MontyRobertsShow/

Please note that Dish TV has moved the HRTV channel position to 398.

I also believe there is something you can do to care for your horse's digestive system. I've been using a product called SUCCEED® on my performance horses for many years now, with tremendous results." ~ Monty

See more
<http://www.montyroberts.com/succeed/>

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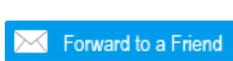
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Let us know what you are looking for in content from these emails. Send your comments and requests to askmonty@montyroberts.com.

Never miss an e-mail from Monty: To ensure you receive this email in the future, add askmonty@montyroberts.com to your list of approved senders or select the Add/Save to Address Book function in your email browser and follow the appropriate instructions.



CANADA'S RURAL TV



In Canada, Monty's Backstage Pass show airs Thursday & Saturday-10:30 AM, 4:30 PM, 11 PM (all times are EST) on television on The Rural Channel. More info as to where

The Rural Channel is available:
<http://theruralchannel.com/gallery/monty-roberts-backstage-pass/>

If you have questions or need more info go to info@theruralchannel.com or reach out on any of their Social Media platforms: @TheRuralChannel
www.facebook.com/theruralchannel

Horse & Country, UK



Watch Monty Roberts on Horse & Country TV in the UK (Sky channel 253), Ireland, The Netherlands, Sweden and Malta. See: www.horseandcountry.tv/monty for more info.

Photo Credits

Christopher Dydyk

Sincerely,
Monty Roberts

