



ASK MONTY

Wednesday December 24, 2014

Greetings!

It happens to beginner riders and it happens to top-level competitors in all disciplines: fear of riding or fear of a specific horse. Monty has worked with many horses that caused their riders to lose their confidence. Read his question and answer for words of advice on this topic. There is always hope when your mindset causes you to look for answers that both keep you safe and meet the needs of your horse. Happy holidays!



And here is Santa Claus, caught on camera as he practices his driving techniques at Monty's Flag Is Up Farms with one of our Willing Partners Horses. Looking good, don't you think? You can lighten Santa's load this Christmas by ordering one of Monty's digital products and gift certificates! Just place your order by noon PST today, December 24, to ensure delivery by Christmas day. Order something extra special for horse lovers here:

www.MontyRoberts.com/shop/specials/

Some of our last-minute specials, ranging from \$5 to \$100:

- eBooks for Kindle or iOS devices: From My Hands to Yours; The Man Who Listens to Horses; I'm Shy Boy; The Little American Mustang
- Membership to Monty's online learning tool, Equus Online University
- Gift Certificates

Visit www.MontyRoberts.com/shop/specials/ for more details.

MONTY ANSWERS

Question:

I recently purchased a dressage horse that the owners said had failed to show promise in dressage and they would sell him at a good price. Unfortunately I came off of him and now I am afraid to ride him again. I hope you can help. What happened was I was going to dismount, so I took my feet out of the stirrups and the metal stirrups touched his sides and he ran off. I went one way and he went the other. How do I build my courage back up to ride him again?

IN THIS ISSUE

[Monty's Question and Answer](#)

[Equus Online Uni](#)

[Monty's Calendar](#)

[Monty on the Radio](#)

[Life Lessons from Monty](#)

[Get the E-news Each Week](#)

[Spread the Word](#)

[Monty's Challenge](#)

[Monty's Principles](#)

[Monty on TV](#)

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 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

Answer:

It occurs to me that there is no better time in the past 65 years or so of my career to answer this question. The reason for that statement is because recently I was sent a German-born Warmblood that was purchased and brought to the US for high level dressage competition. After causing significant injury to two separate people, this horse was sent to me to see if there was any way to rectify the situation. I have now had four months or so of training him, and he is vastly improved.

There is no way to identify what his negative experiences were, but it is clear that there were negatives that left him a fragile 'basket case' of sensitivity. The injured riders were high level competition people, which does not mean that they were prepared for an equine kamikaze. What we did with him stretched us not only to keep the riders safe but to keep our horse from killing himself as well. These procedures require enormous experience and an aptitude for dealing with ultra sensitive horses that have moved to a state of being potentially lethal.

It is likely you are obligated to secure the services of an extremely talented professional. The answer to this question should not encourage the thought that I am preparing you to find an immediate answer. Most of the problems I have dealt with regarding remedial dressage horses has been to execute desensitizing, which appears to be in answer to lunge whips and dressage whips that have implanted fear deeply into the nervous system.

Another remedial problem often seen is rearing. The act of holding and spurring often produces rearing. When the dressage horse rears, most riders go passive. The horse comes to feel that rearing is the answer to causing the rider to back off of their demands. Do not allow me to leave you with the impression that I am sweeping all dressage riders and/or horses with the same broom.

You may have made a purchase without careful consideration of the horse's needs. Perhaps you did not go through the necessary process of assessing the horse before you rode him. If you are not an advanced level rider I cannot blame you for losing confidence. Like wise, I am not blaming the horse for reacting as he did. In fact, it is true that the most sensitive horses generally produce the highest scores.

At this point, you need to seek professional advice in a trainer, preferably one who understands my concepts and professes non-violent techniques, who can meet you and your horse. I created a DVD called The Perfect Match which is my guide to buying a horse, for this very conversation <http://www.montyroberts.com/shop/dvds/dvd-perfect-match/>
Please write and let us know how it goes.

~ Monty

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:

Dear Mr Roberts,
I have a 9 yo thoroughbred mare who I purchased almost 2 years ago with 3 weeks training off the track. At the time I was 13 and with the help of my instructors I have been training her in dressage, cross country and show jumping since I got her. From the time I got her she has shown a lot of promise in all areas even though she would always bolt off in jumping. The past 6 months however, she has really been acting up, especially in jumping. She would balk and refuse even the smallest jumps. Also when I first got her she was terrified of most tack and equipment, especially whips. A couple months ago, I decided to see how she would go bareback, because I remembered that she had done well bareback some time ago. I expected her to play up and either bolt, refuse jumps or start bucking again. However, she was an absolute gem, even in jumping. I began experimenting with different activities and found she was much calmer and much more responsive without the saddle. Is it possible that she links the appearance of certain tack and equipment with the bad memories of pain and other things from her racing days? And could this be why she is acting up? Could the increase in difficulty of the training have finally brought back bad memories?
Sincerely,
Hannah

HOLIDAY DELIVERIES: IT'S NOT TOO LATE



Still need a gift for that special someone? Choose our gift certificates and online products here: <http://www.montyroberts.com/shop/specials>

To be sure that your gift is delivered on time, please place your order before noon Pacific Standard Time today, December 24.

Questions? Our offices are open until noon Pacific Standard Time, call 805-688-6288.



THIS WEEK IN MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNI



Monty's Principles

Second Chances with Horses

Dear Mr.Roberts,

My name is Brian from Canada. I am 71 years old and dealing with cancer. I just finished reading your book "[The Man Who Listens to Horses](#)." Boy it brought me to tears a couple of times, I sure wish I could have met you years ago. However things in this book make me say to myself "That's what I thought." My dad was a good man who farmed with horses, he was born in 1900 and lived until he was 98. He said he really lost interest when they quit the horses for tractors.He was a good farmer and until I read your book I always thought him a good horseman, but if he had got to know you, I know he would have followed your plan.

I wasn't very old when he brought a horse for me to ride (we called it a blood horse I don't know why, dark brown) probably about 13.5 hands,he put me on its back, slapped him and away I went. We didn't have a saddle, Dad used an old army



DUALLY DANCE WITH CHRIS MORRIS LESSON 4: PUTTING THE MOVES TOGETHER



saddle, anyway that was the first time on a horse for me. As I got older he got another horse a bigger bay horse so that I didn't have to go on foot for our milk cows.

A couple years later I bought my own horse. It wasn't broke (I don't like to use that word after reading your book, in fact I won't use it anymore). I started to ride him and I would go to his pasture and play with him. We played tag. I could do anything with that horse. My dad was impressed. Without knowing, I had all the time in the world and up until the time I left home I rode him lots (still no saddle).

I have three horses now: one real old, one that I baby along, one papered Quarter Horse mare that I ended up with a guy owed me some money. I should have guessed there was something about this mare when she would not go into the trailer. I led her out from the outside of the trailer, when I turned her loose in the corral she went around and around like crazy. Other people said they knew this horse and that she was "crazy". I was going to ship her but something kept me back from doing that. She is always the first horse in from the pasture and comes right up to me.

After I read your book and watched some internet sites of yours, I am glad I did not get rid of her because I always felt she deserved a chance. I think someone must have given her a beating. She is safe now and I will never strike her. Some things in your book I have been doing years past with other horses but I have to make my own apologies to past horses. Anyway what I really wanted to say is thanks again, because I can hardly wait to get

out and work with these horses.

When you go to bed at night you should have a smile on your face because have helped many horses and people. I will be treating my wife better and people I come in contact with. I am excited about the future Thanks again. You don't have to answer this because I know you are busy and I just wanted to say thanks.

Brian

CORIGEM: Honey Power



"The scientists behind Corigem® have found a nature-made healing gift from a species that no one before seemed to appreciate: a species of very busy bees that will improve the lives of humans and animals together."

- Monty Roberts.

Read more on:
<http://www.montyroberts.com/corigem/>

SUCCEED: Digestive Health

Monty's Equus Online University NEW Ground Manners Training lessons continue today, December 10, with Monty Roberts introducing Chris Morris, Certified Instructor from the UK. [Watch the video now!](#)



Not a student yet? Click on: www.montyrobertsuniversity.com and Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free and fun methods now.

REMEMBER OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS: WAYS TO DONATE



It's the holidays, please remember to support our war veterans and first responders.

One easy way is by shopping online: When you do your holiday shopping at [AmazonSmile](#), Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Monty's nonprofit, **Join-Up International**. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0459889> and support us every time you shop. You will be helping Monty's horse rescue efforts, free clinics for war

veterans, and more!

You can also make a year-end donation directly to Join-Up International here:
<http://www.join-up.org/donation-faqs.html>

GLOBE GALLOPING WITH MONTY ROBERTS

Have some fun with Monty, go to: www.facebook.com/MontyRoberts

NEW TOUR DATES: UK and AUSTRALIA!

February 14, 2015	Night of Inspiration at Flag Is Up Farms Email admin@montyroberts.com for information	USA
March 14, 2015	Monty demonstration at Camp Verde in Arizona. Click here!	USA
March 24, 2015	Hadlow College , Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0AL	UK
March 26, 2015	Norton Heath Equestrian Centre Limited , Fingrith Hall Lane, Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0JP	UK
March 28, 2015	West Wilts Equestrian Centre , Melksham Road, Holt, North Trowbridge, Wilts BA14 6QT	UK
April 25 & 26, 2015	Demos in Melbourne, tickets: http://www.montyrobertslive.com/	Australia
April 29, 2015	Demo in Shepparton, tickets: http://www.montyrobertslive.com/	Australia
May 2 & 3	Demos in Canberra, tickets: http://www.montyrobertslive.com/	Australia

If you are in Australia and would like to register your horse for Horse Selection at one of Monty's demonstrations,



please learn about the process here: <http://www.montyrobertslive.com/take-part/horse-application/>
 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/



"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.

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/shop/horse-health-care-products/>

Now Playing: Hollywood Hoofbeats and Monty's Year in Review



[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.

Author and daughter of legendary film star Robert Mitchum chats about her new book "Hollywood Hoofbeats: The Fascinating Story of Horses in Movies and Television" and the Annual Year in Review with Monty Roberts.

Listen in...

<http://www.horsemanSHIPradio.com/2014/12/15/horsemanSHIP-radio-episode-30-by-index-fund-advisors-ifa-com-hollywood-hoofbeats-and-montys-year-in-review/>

[Click here to bookmark the HorsemanSHIP Radio episodes on iTunes.](#)

[Click here to bookmark the HorsemanSHIP Radio episodes on Android.](#)

Recent interviews:

William Reynolds, Equine Media Influencer

Greg M. Simon, Prix de West Chairman, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

Chris Morris, Monty Roberts Certified Instructor, England

Christiane Schwagrzinna, Equine Alternative Therapy, Germany

Angie Sheer, Equine Alternative Therapy for Veterans

Petrine Day Mitchum, author of Hollywood Hoofbeats

Monty Roberts, Year in Review 2014

Brought to you by Index Fund Advisors, www.IFA.com, and Corigem, www.CorigemAnimals.com, (promo code: MONTY)

CANADA'S RURAL TV

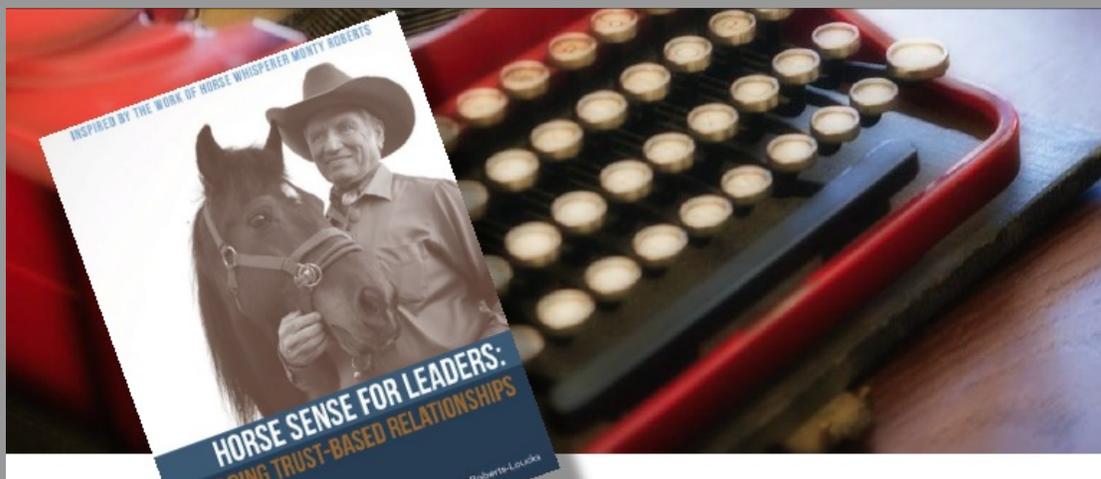


In Canada, Monty's Backstage Pass show airs Thursday & Saturday-10:30 AM, 4:30 PM, 11 PM (all times are EST) on television on The Rural Channel. More info as to where

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 SENSE FOR LEADERS



Enjoy the First Excerpt Now

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.

Monty on HRTV



Watch Monty on HRTV Tuesdays at 6:00 PM ET.

Special Offer for Monty Roberts' Fans! **First month FREE** of HRTV.com when you subscribe now! Just use the **promo code MR13** when you sign up!

Excerpt Now.

Here is a free excerpt from an inspirational book about building trust-based relationships inspired by the work of horse whisperer and New York Times best-selling author, Monty Roberts.

[Click here to read an introductory excerpt!](#)

HRTV[®]

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.

E-News Delivery

Do you receive this FREE letter with Monty's Question and Answer weekly?

If not, click here: <http://www.montyroberts.com/category/montys-question-and-answer-space/>



KEEP IN TOUCH

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.

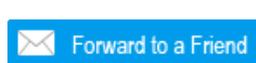


Photo Credits

Christopher Dydyk

Sincerely,
Monty Roberts

