



# ASK MONTY

Wednesday May 13, 2015

## Greetings!

Do you have your horse's attention? Are you training your horse at a pace that meets the horse's needs? Read Monty's tips on this topic in his question and answer column this week. You can also join Monty's Equus Online University to explore Monty's lessons on accelerated learning, ritualistic habituation, and more than 348 additional videos!



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## Monty's Principles

### Strength and Compassion

You're a truly awesome and brave man Monty! I've just finished your book..[The Man Who Listens to Horses](#). I'm truly amazed at your strength and compassion, along with Pat! I feel you're part of my family now. I'm now reading [Shy Boy](#).

Amazing..just amazing!

Angela Staley,  
North Carolina

## MONTY ANSWERS

### Question:

Can you take too long when starting a horse?

I'm a student of one of your instructors in Europe and am about to take my introductory exams. I'm currently working a lot with young horses and hoping to visit Flag is Up in the future to take the advanced course in the future.

My question is, do you think there is a benefit to moving quicker in a horse's training and introducing new things at the same time, assuming that the horse is not being forced/stressed?

When I started my first young horse, my initial instinct was to move very slowly, raising the bar incrementally and giving the horse lots of time to become accustomed to each stage. For example, I would introduce the saddle and spend lots of time doing in-hand work with the saddle on, a week later I would introduce the bridle, another week introduce the long lines, etc. This also made sense with my own level of training at the time, ensuring I didn't make too many mistakes and gained confidence in the techniques.

More recently, I've been experimenting with doing a full Join-Up, tack up and long line in one session and I've

been surprised by how quickly the horses have adapted and dealt with everything. For example, I've found many horses to be much quicker to get used to the lines around their legs by just getting on with it and doing it, as apposed to before, when I would incrementally desensitize them to the lines over a week or two. It was as if by giving them too much time to think about things, they were actually taking longer to get used to them. I assume this is because of their natural distractibility when introducing lots of new things at once. I have also occasionally felt I was losing the horse's attention during training sessions by not providing enough of a challenge.

Is this something you have experienced? I know that in your demonstrations you introduce many things during one session, but would you do the same when starting a young horse at home? Is there an optimum balance between taking too long and rushing, or does it change every time depending on the horse? I'm not concerned at all with how long the starting process takes, but I am interested in helping the horses learn in the most efficient way and maintaining their cooperation throughout.

It's important to note, that I don't mean just immediately introducing the tack and long lines - the horses would all be happy and consistent leading in hand with the dually, have done at least one Join-Up before, and have done some basic desensitising/leading in hand through obstacles/outdoors. The

## Monty's Challenge



When it is time to take the step of introducing a saddle, bridle and long lines, is it better to do it all in one go?

~ Zoe

**Answer:**

In my studies of human behavior, one of the very interesting aspects of it was to measure the learning curve of young students in primary school. I discovered that most schools will try to bring an entire class along keeping each student about level with the learning of the rest of the students. What I have found that this does is to encourage the underachievers to move forward as fast as they can and that is good. What is not so good is that the brighter students will be held in a holding pattern where learning is concerned.

Most child psychologists will agree that one of the worst problems for bright students is that they become lazy and disinterested. This is the time when these students will usually look to some negative activity to heighten their interest. It is my opinion that horses are no different. While it is an art form to decide just how fast to move along, do not lose sight of the fact that moving too slowly is just as bad as moving too quickly.

Personally, I am one to move along fairly rapidly and then to use repetition in the following days to more deeply imprint the material in the horse's brain. I suggest that you work with a lot of horses so that your natural skills come to the surface. Keep them interested!



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 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

**THIS WEEK IN MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY**



**Next Week's Question:**

I have completed Join-Up and decent follow-up with this mare, she comes to me in the field and she will let me touch her all over. She really seems to enjoy my presence and I enjoy hers. She's a 5 yr old TB with very little training, but she has never been abused either, so she's been very receptive to all of your techniques. She willingly does (almost) everything I ask her to do, but I've been having some trouble with her nipping. She is not hand fed by anyone and I have never hand fed her myself, so I'm fairly certain that is not the cause. She does it whether I have a lead line on her or not, but she only does to when she's following me. She's not really biting, she's just kind of lipping, I've never even felt her teeth, but I'm concerned that this will progress and turn into biting. My best guess is that she's trying to get my attention, or perhaps she's trying to control me. I tried bumping her with my boot, and maybe I've been doing it wrong, because she seems to expect it and she'll move away from me. If she's trying to get my attention, should I ignore her? I'm willing to try whatever, thank you in advance!

Nina Foy,  
Maryland, USA

Monty's Equus Online University lessons continue today with Monty's Tour Demonstrations in Germany. Watch Part 4 of Enjoy, the spooky horse. [Watch the video now!](#)



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

**SUCCEED: Digestive Health**



"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/>

**GLOBE GALLOPING WITH MONTY ROBERTS**

Follow Monty, go to: [www.facebook.com/MontyRoberts](http://www.facebook.com/MontyRoberts)

**Monty in California**

- May 14 to 16, 2015 The International Conference of Monty's Certified Instructors at Flag Is Up Farms in California USA
- June 5 to 7, 2015 [Monty's Horse Sense and Healing](#) free for Combat Veterans and First Responders diagnosed with stress injuries USA
- June 30, 2015 Monty and Carole Herder of Cavallo Horse and Rider will host a webinar All About Horsemanship (more details to come) USA

June 25 to July 1, 2015	<a href="http://www.mundoequestre.com.br/#!viagem-monty-roberts/ccco">Monty's Special Training</a> with Portuguese Translation at Flag Is Up Farms.	USA
July 6 to 17, 2015	<a href="#">Gentling Wild Horses course</a> (open to all levels) at Flag Is Up Farms	USA
August 1 and 2, 2015	Monty's Riding with Respect clinic. For details, go to: <a href="http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/RespectClinicAug_web.pdf">http://www.montyroberts.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/RespectClinicAug_web.pdf</a>	USA
August 3 to 7, 2015	<a href="#">Monty's Special Training</a> at Flag Is Up Farms	USA
September 5, 2015	<a href="#">Night of Inspiration with Monty</a> at Flag Is Up Farms	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/](http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/see-monty/)

## 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/>

## Giving Back to Veterans



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>

## HORSE TRANSPORT SAFETY: YOU CAN HELP!

The British Animal Rescue and Trauma Association has become increasingly concerned about the number of accidents and incidents involving horses and ponies being transported in horseboxes and trailers. The aim of this survey is to identify the common factors which may contribute to such an accident or incident. With this information, the aim is to talk to leading manufacturers of horse transport and work towards developing designs which are safer and more comfortable for the horse.

How you can help

If your horse has been involved in an incident or accident whilst being transported in a horsebox or trailer within the last five years, then the information you have surrounding the situation is critical and may save lives in the future. Please complete this survey with as much detail as you can.

Click here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1gCrSJSI6f0RjEqb1bVZcwAJbdjAUQdAWv1LTu4-viWc/formResponse>

Please could it say instead: If you would prefer, please print the form off and post it to: Sarah Weston, Home Cottage, Brook Lane, Woodgreen, Hants. SP6 2AT. You can also save it and send it as an attachment with an email to: [sarah@logicalhorsemanship.co.uk](mailto:sarah@logicalhorsemanship.co.uk)

N.B. For the purposes of this survey, 'incident' and 'accident' will be referred to as 'incident'. For incidents involving more than one horse, please complete the form for just one horse.

Please help prevent incidents in the future by filling in this survey in as much detail as possible. We need this level of detail in order to get to the bottom of how incidents occur.

## HORSEMANSHIP RADIO

Episode 39 by Index Fund Advisors [www.IFA.com](http://www.IFA.com), [Omega Fields Supplements](#) and Monty's [Equus Online University](#).

**Lee & Hallie Hanssen On Producing Happy Healthy Barrel Horses, Trainer Carl Bledsoe Fan of Gaited Horses. Our Trainers Tip is from Angie Sheer, President and Founder of Equus Medendi, Equine Assisted Learning and Therapy.**

Click here and listen in...

<http://www.horsemanshipradio.com/2015/04/30/horsemanship-radio-episode-39-by-index-fund-advisors-ifa-com-lee-hallie-hanssen-on-producing-happy-healthy-barrel-horses-trainer-carl-bledsoe-fan-of-gaited-horses/>

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.

Get the free App here:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/horse-radio-network/id672259386?mt=8>

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

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



## 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!

**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/](http://www.hrtv.com/MontyRobertsShow/)

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

## Horse & Country, UK



Watch Monty Roberts on Horse & Country TV in the UK (Sky channel 253), Ireland, The Netherlands, Sweden and Australia.

<http://www.horseandcountry.tv/programmes/monty-roberts>



## 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](mailto:info@theruralchannel.com)

or reach out on any of their Social Media platforms: @TheRuralChannel [www.facebook.com/theruralchannel](http://www.facebook.com/theruralchannel)

## Photo Credits

**Christopher Dydyk**

## HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



Enjoy the First Excerpt Now.

Now available on Amazon! Click on Amazon Smile and donate to Monty's nonprofit while getting this great book.

Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships Features New York Times Best-Selling Author Monty Roberts

[http://www.amazon.com/Horse-Sense-Leaders-Trust-Based-Relationships-ebook/dp/B00UM34OZC/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1426527171&sr=8-](http://www.amazon.com/Horse-Sense-Leaders-Trust-Based-Relationships-ebook/dp/B00UM34OZC/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1426527171&sr=8-)

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"The connection made in this book between leadership and non-violence is extremely important. Many leaders have employed violence or cruelty to achieve their ends but Monty Roberts has gone in the opposite direction and shows how true leadership is about the development of trust (whether between a human and an animal or between humans) and encouraging those around one to reach their full potential. Everybody could benefit from absorbing the practices outlined in this book."

Andrew Rowan is the Chief Scientific Officer for The Humane Society of the United States.

Premise of the book: Monty Roberts, author of The New York Times bestseller, The Man Who Listens to Horses, has cooperated with the writing of a new book, Horse Sense for Leaders. The book borrows from the fascinating life of Roberts, known as the horse whisperer, for a highly engaging look at the significance of trust-based leadership. The book blends Monty's work as a world leader of non-violent horse training with current research on the value of a trust-based leadership approach. This unique approach allows for an interesting and provocative read on how leaders can engage followers in more effective relationships at work.

[\[Click here to read on...a free excerpt\]](#)

## 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](mailto:askmonty@montyroberts.com).

Never miss an e-mail from Monty: To ensure you receive this email in the future, add [askmonty@montyroberts.com](mailto: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.



Sincerely,  
**Monty Roberts**



