



Wednesday August 26, 2015

Greetings!

## MONTY ANSWERS

### Question:

I have a 10-year-old Tennessee Walker mare whom I have owned for seven years. Five years ago her first trip to the mountains was with a group of other riders. She was doing fine until we encountered backpackers, which terrified her. Despite the other horses walking past calmly, her reaction was to rear, spin and bolt. It did not matter if she was in front, mid pack or at the rear of the line.

I set out to help her overcome this fear; my first attempt was to feed our horses in the pasture with a backpack on. She did not have issues with this after the first day. My next effort required the cooperation of the group of riders I usually ride with. I rode in the back of the line of six horses. If a backpacker or hiker was seen ahead, the other riders would alert me. Before my horse saw the hikers, I dismounted, led the horse up to them, stopped to talk a moment, mounted and continued our ride.

After repeating this a few times with success, I changed it a little by mounting while next to the backpackers. Again, after a few successful lessons, I then mounted before passing them and rode her past. This proved to be very helpful for her and soon she was able to pass hikers on a loose rein. We had no issues the next few rides where we encountered hikers.

Last weekend we took our first ride in the mountains this year near the Pacific Crest Trail which is busy with summer hikers. She did okay with the first several people on foot on the trail. The problem began when we began to ride faster than a flat walk on a seemingly remote section of trail. Our horses were doing a running walk when we encountered two backpackers ahead. We slowed down and the horses in front calmly walked by while my horse reverted back to fear, slamming on the brakes, rearing and spinning.

I stopped, dismounted, lead her over toward them and talked with them for a few minutes. Once the horse seemed quiet, we walked by and I mounted to continue my ride. The rest of the group, except for one understanding rider who stayed with us, went on ahead while I encountered hiker after hiker with the horse going through the old fear reaction. I tried to ride by one hiker and she tensed up and turned her butt toward them which I immediately corrected. She has never kicked but if she is so frightened, I cannot assume she would not.

She stands quietly while I talk to backpackers but if they reach to pet her, her eyes get big and she backs up. When on the ground I keep myself between the hiker and the horse. I like this horse and want to feel safe wherever I ride. I also want the hikers we encounter on the trail are safe. I will start over with the dismounting and riding by exercise that worked a few years ago. I am not sure what else to try. Do you have any suggestions or in-sight? I would like to understand why she is so frightened by people she encounters on the trail, with or without backpacks.

Thank you, Janis P.

### Answer:

It is an interesting question that you bring to me. First of all let me say that I am proud of you for the approach you took and the innovations that you accomplished during the course of this journey. Please remember that all horses are neophobic. This simply means that they are extremely frightened of anything new. This could include different lighting or speeds of travel.

What I didn't hear in your list of innovations was to come home and invite your local boy scout troop to come to your property for a hot dog roast, then have whole troop put on their biggest back packs and be prepared to jog past your stable 50 times in each direction. Nor did hear that you had the entire boy scout troop walk and trot past you while you rode on your favorite trail.

We happen to ride very similar horses, you and I. Nice Chrome, my horse, cannot even tolerate a chair in his arena that may have been there for up to three years. He is fine with it unless someone turns it over. Then it is new and he might try to spin out from under me. He comes to the mounting block perfectly. But if someone puts it in the arena it becomes a horse-eating predator.

All horses are neophobic but that doesn't mean they all possess this characteristic at equal levels. Some are mega-neophobic. 'New' might mean that the lighting is different or as you suggest the speed of travel is different. Backpacks at home might be different than backpacks on the trail. These mega-neophobic horses have to experience as many of their phobias in every environment.

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## Monty's Principles

### A Night of Inspiration

Dear Monty and Pat,  
Thank you for your kind invitation - How I Wish I could come to [Monty's Night of Inspiration!](#)

All you send me by your newsletters is of great interest and pleasure. I have your books too.

Thanks to H.M.The Queen who has been inspired by you and your many visits to places in England to 'show them how' we so admire all you do. Keep Up Your Good Work for as long as you can.

Best wishes to you both,  
Jean Grant, South Africa

## Monty's Challenge



Chrome is not a horse that I want to ride down the trail for fun. I simply don't think there is any way that I could expose him to each of the environmental circumstances that he would define as new. I think you did as good a job as you could but possibly you should do more of the innovations that you found success with. Change up their look as much as possible and you could be successful.

~ Monty

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

**Next Week's Question:**

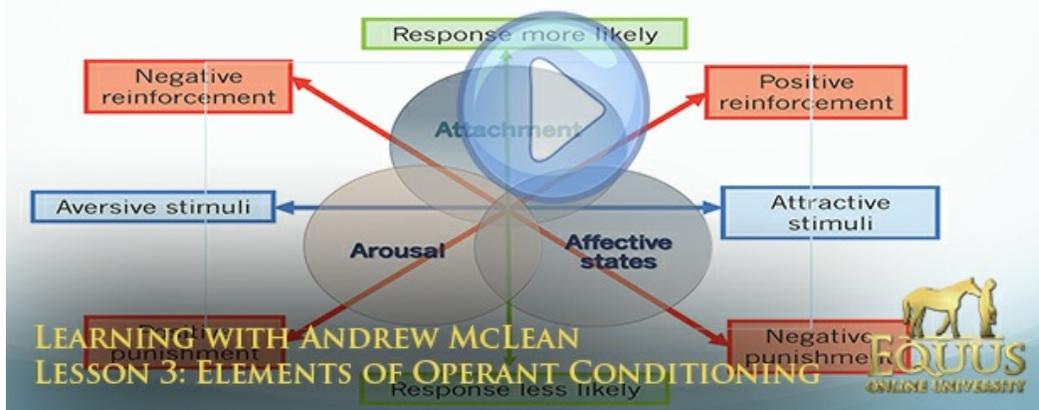
**Walking Through Large Pools of Brown Muddy Water in the Forest**

Any tips on the best way to approach this task? My instructor tells me to have the horse face the water and then kick or whip them until they go through. Intuitively this feels wrong.

Best regards  
Warren C., England

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

**THIS WEEK ON EQUUS ONLINE...  
Operant conditioning**



Monty's Equus Online University lessons continue today with Andrew McLean Lesson 3: The Elements of Operant Conditioning.

[Watch the video now!](#)

**Giving Back to Veterans**



**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.



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 donation directly to Join-Up International here:

<http://www.join-up.org/donation-faqs.html>

**GLOBE GALLOPING WITH MONTY ROBERTS**

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

**Monty in California**

September 5, 2015	<a href="#">Night of Inspiration with Monty</a> at Flag Is Up Farms	USA
October 10, 2015	<a href="#">Bishop Burton College</a> , York Road, Bishop Burton, Beverley HU17 8QG	UK
October 17, 2015	<a href="#">Myerscough College</a> , St Michaels' Road, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY	UK
October 23, 2015	<a href="#">Hartpury College</a> , Hartpury, Gloucester, GL19 3BE	UK
October 29, 2015	<a href="#">Merrist Wood College</a> , Worplesdon, Guildford, GU3 3PE	UK
October 31, 2015	<a href="#">Ingliston Country Club</a> , Ingliston Estate, Old Greenock Road, Bishopton Renfrewshire, Scotland, PA7 5PA	UK
November 6, 2015	<a href="#">Horse Sense for Leaders</a> at Flag Is Up Farms in California	USA
November 7 to 8, 2015	Join Pat Roberts for the <a href="#">Wild at Heart Women's Weekend</a>	USA

**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:



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/)

<http://www.montyroberts.com/corigem/>

## 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/>

## SEA HORSES: A CALENDAR BY SIMON PALMER



Simon Palmer is a longtime friend and colleague of Monty Roberts in the UK. He has done video and still camera work for Monty for many years. His [Sea Horses Calendar](#) features 12 months of stunning heavy horse pictures. The Sea

Horses Calendar has been successful; the funding is going to happen. With just days to go, Simon would love to get to £2000, currently on about £1500. If this happens, then everyone who buys the calendar will also get some new Greeting Cards. It will be shipped worldwide, so folks in the US and other countries can get the calendar.

Have a look! It's a beautiful work of art and makes a perfect gift for horse lovers. Here is the link to the project: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/2055269985/2016-sea-horses-calendar>

## HORSEMANSHIP RADIO

### Hall of Famer Jack Roddy, Monty Roberts - National Championship Teammates and Sherry Gaber DC Suggests Stretches

Jack Roddy and Monty Roberts competed against each other in Horse Shows going back 70 years. Both attended Cal Poly University in California where Monty was the NIRA Champion Team Roper and Steer Wrestler in 1956 and 1957 and Jack won the All Around NIRA Cowboy in 1959, and was inducted in the Hall of Fame in 1979. Author Katie Cooney interviews both greats of the sport, including their Teammate Jim Capps, for an upcoming biography. Sherry Gaber, a good Yoga Stretch for before and after a ride.

Episode 46 by Index Fund Advisors [www.IFA.com](http://www.IFA.com), [Omega Fields Supplements](#) and Monty's [Equus Online University](#).

#### Listen in...

<http://www.horsemanshipradio.com/2015/08/15/horsemanship-radio-episode-46-by-index-fund-advisors-ifa-com-hall-of-famer-jack-roddy-monty-roberts-national-championship-teammates-sherry-gaber-dc-suggests-stretches/>

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.](#)

SEE YOUR HORSE "SHINE" FROM THE INSIDE OUT  
OmegaFields.com

IFA.com  
Index Fund Advisors  
fiduciaries for wealth



## 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!



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>

In Australia: [www.horseandcountrytv.com.au](http://www.horseandcountrytv.com.au)

## 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



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/dp/1508480338/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1434515209&sr=8-](http://www.amazon.com/Horse-Sense-Leaders-Trust-Based-Relationships/dp/1508480338/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1434515209&sr=8-1&keywords=Horse+Sense+for+Leaders)

[1&keywords=Horse+Sense+for+Leaders](http://www.amazon.com/Horse-Sense-Leaders-Trust-Based-Relationships/dp/1508480338/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1434515209&sr=8-1&keywords=Horse+Sense+for+Leaders)

"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.

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

are only 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)

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<http://www.montyroberts.com/category/montys-question-and-answer-space/>



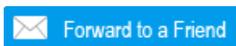
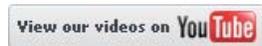
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Christopher Dydyk

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Sincerely,  
**Monty Roberts**

