



ASK MONTY

Wednesday November 4, 2015

Greetings!



Photo credit: Simon Palmer, <http://into-the-lens.com>

Monty demonstrated at Buckingham Palace as guest of Queen Elizabeth II and The Duchess of Cornwall with [The Brooke](#) on Wednesday October 21, 2015. For the demonstration Roberts worked with a horse followed by a reception for The Duchess and a private audience of supporters of the charity.

The Queen and The Duchess specifically requested Monty, his daughter Debbie Loucks and Katie Cunningham from Guatemala, share about the new affiliate program of [Join-Up International](#) in Guatemala. Lead-Up International is a compelling leadership program designed for disadvantaged youth. This groundbreaking approach is reducing violence by helping create calm and peaceful leaders through workshops with horses. For more information contact Katie@join-up.org or Debbie@join-up.org.

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MONTY ANSWERS

Question:

I have a question to ask you, if you have the time to answer. I am an adult that is very passionate about horses and have been my whole life I am always willing to learn as much as I can, however health issues have prevented me from having a horse, up until recently. I have been riding for 3 years and am quite inexperienced.

I have just bought a horse for my sister and myself, "Trigger," a 15hh QH Palomino Gelding who is nine years old. Apparently he has done natural horsemanship before, barrel racing, stock work and trail riding, but I would question, if at all, how well he was trained in this, as he was bought from some non-horsey people who had him in a less than 10x10 backyard.

I received an email about Lesson 1 and have been watching your videos on Join-Up. I've been working on the basic steps of Join-Up, but have never done it before. We do not have a round yard, but his paddock at the moment is very small approx. (40m x 50m, but a weird shape) like a quarantine paddock. The first time I tried Join-Up, he ran around his paddock at trot most of the time, (I did have to send him forward though) looking for the horse in the next paddock and total ignoring me, then he started to move his ear toward me, then he drooped his head and started licking and chewing. Then all of a sudden he just like stood still and when took a step back and moved my body slightly sideways, he came straight in, and then just followed me. This took less the 5 minutes and I had never seen anything real (except in videos) like it before. I have been researching about JOIN-UP, because he is very hard to catch and when he sees the halter he walks away, the first day before I did JOIN-UP he did not just walk away he trotted away, (like saying "you're not putting that on me"). But after join up he was very happy to be haltered, but he still lifted his head quite high, but stood still for me.

The questions are:

Once you have done Join-Up, should the horse always want to be with you and follow you every time you are (let's say going to see him in the paddock)? Because I have been working on Join-Up for the last four days and the problems I have are:

When I go to his paddock he comes up, but shortly after I enter his paddock he backs off and walks away. (not all the time but some of the time). I try to be very aware of my body posture when approaching him so that he knows I am not-pushing him way. When he does that I say like, if you don't want to stay and be with me then you have to go away far, and then I start Join-Up all over again, but he usually joins up really quickly. What am I doing wrong, how can I improve, or am I just being to impatient?

I have been using the lead rope (it is about 2-3 meters long) in a round action to keep him going around. So when he sees the lead rope, even when it is still or if I just move it a bit, he like backs off, I never hit him with it and I have been desensitizing him to it when he is standing still. Moving the rope over his body down his legs, over his back and everything? I don't know if he was ever been abused before but he seems very wary of his halter, bridle. I have also used a long line to keep him going too. What can I do to improve his confident, and what am I doing wrong is there any issues with what I am doing?

Monty's Principles

From the Founder of Lead-Up International in Guatemala

I'm feeling emotional and so grateful today having just finished four weeks of intensive workshops with vulnerable youth in Guatemala.

Our workshops are helping youth at risk to develop a new sense of peaceful leadership through interactions with horses and specifically through Join-Up®.

Such an honor to work with these teenagers and I want to say a HUGE thank you to our amazing team: Leslie Paiz, Raulito Pineda, Judith Gibbons, Debbie Loucks, Pat Roberts and Monty Roberts for incredible dedication and faith in this groundbreaking and inspiring program. And thanks also to Ann Lindberg, Denise Heinlein, Jenny Ahlroth, Silvia Guizzard, Melisa Lindros, Brian OliverSmith, Kris Rob-ins, Amanda Gibson, Marivel Corazón, Carlos Sueiras, Miguel Lupiano, Jose Ricardo Pokorny, Katelyn Poelker, Linn Maria Lukschandi, Julia Wild, Luis Chip, Jonny Pineda, Pedro Chip, Rolando Choc, Amy Holly, Rosamaria Martin, Marcella Maria Martin, Keri Peyton, Åsa Björklund, Santiago Albert, Cecilia DGh, Elizabeth Van Leeu-wen, Kristin Ostby de Barillas, Mario Sapon, Derek W Steele, Sophie Mckee, Aracely Chajon, John Locan, M Catherine OliverSmith, Julio Benard, Machteld Oosterbaan de Benard, Pablo Paiz Muñoz, Sofi Ramos, Harald Jensen, Dawn Perrine, Xara Tejada, Xantal Tejada, Velvet Beard, Sarah Spoor, Marianne Cooper Lee, Romi Maegli, Christine Wilson Keilhauer, Christina Kerndal-Hansen, Ellen Mueller, Mindy Grantham, Oni Djéli, John van Keppel, Rafa Grajeda Estrada, Ana Rauda, Ruby Batz, Yeny Argueta, Bonnie Skinner Levy, Robert Prince, Maya Horsey, and

EVERYONE else who has played a part in the journey so far.

Watch this space for more exciting news from Lead-Up International, Affiliate Program of Join-Up International!

Katie Pokorny

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 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 Monty,

My name is Brooke and I'm a current student at Marcus Oldham in Victoria, Australia.

I love working with horses and creating bonds with them especially the ones I buy from the slaughter houses here in Victoria who just need to be shown some good old Tender Loving Care and guidance.

I have chosen to create an assignment based on your natural horsemanship methods. I have read [From My Hands to Yours](#) and many of your online e-books, watched your Join-Up and Shy Boy videos and am consistently watching your up-dates on YouTube.

I also came to your clinic in Sydney in 2013 which I really learned a lot from.

I would really appreciate if you could write back to me regarding why you have chosen and developed your methods as opposed to breakers and trainers of the English and Thoroughbred industry?

Also do you believe that, to prevent being disposed of or abused, most if not all horses can be reached and helped with your methods of choice? if so are there limitations, if not how to read and determine sooner rather than later. a horse that is

Sometimes when he has joined-up, he gets distracted and looks around at everything, (he can be a bit spooky at times), but last evening he was really great and we took him to new areas on our property and he was very calm and still happily joined-up. Is there anything wrong with this, of so what can I do?

He has a preferred side, but I have been working both sides. One direction he will quicker than the other. Is this an issue, what do I need to do?

Sometimes he seems really lazy about joining-up, he will JOIN-UP then just dawdle about to follow me, if I walk faster he just keeps walking slowly, he usually walks behind me several feet, but I think walking behind me is because I am teaching him not to barge into human space, as he does and also does it when it is feeding time and he gets quite anxious when we ask him to move back out of human space.

This morning I worked on Join-Up and worked both sides he also turned really well, but tried to turn once without being asked, he stood up, seemed to just stand there and look at me once to say "well what", and when I changed body posture and took some steps back and motioned that is was good to come in, he just turned away. (There was another horse being feed however, so he wanted to go that corner of the paddock). Another time when he started to come in I stopped so he stopped. What do I do?

Every now and again once he has done Join-Up he wants to put his head down to eat grass, so I change my body posture and ask him to move either to follow me or move right or left. Also I have seen videos that have shown that when a horse gets distracted/spooked when you lead them, you need to ask them to pay attention to you again and they showed to do this by moving your body so that the horse pays attention to you again. Is this correct and what do I do in this situation, he can be spooky and looks at new thing I don't want to mess up anything?

In general once he has joined-up he is very relaxed, holds his head in a lowered position and licks and chews. Where as the first time I tried to catch him his head was so high I couldn't even reach it.

There are some other issues, but if you have the time to help me, I would be most grateful, I understand that most of the issues could be me and my inexperience, but I want to learn and fix them so please tell me, I don't mind if people tell me I am doing something wrong.

~ Hannah

Answer:

It seems to me through your explanation of the behavior of your horse that you are tending to micro-manage the communication of Equus; the flight animal. From the tenor of your writing I feel that you are being far too human. You seem to be expecting your horse to act like a young human being that has memorized their lessons for the day. It simply doesn't work that way in the real world.

Join-Up® is a conversation. Conversations, by their very nature, are slightly unpredictable and vary with personalities and can even change on a daily basis depending upon the mindset of the individual in question. My recommendation is that you continue to study Join-Up and all of the aspects that you have out-lined in your question. Don't expect it to run to a script.

It pleases me that you are taking the time to learn more about your horse's personality. If more owners would do this there would be far fewer problems in our industry. Continue to be observant and feel free to continue communicating with us so that we can stay aware of your learning curve and become more aware of the idiosyncrasies of the horse in question. I must say he sounds very normal to me and should not be expected to be totally predictable.

~ Monty

THIS WEEK IN MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY

THIS WEEK ON EQUUS ONLINE...



WILD HORSES

EQUUS

Monty's Equus Online University lessons continue today with NEW lessons in the Wild Horses Series: Part 8: Creating a Sweet Spot. [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.

GLOBE GALLOPING WITH MONTY ROBERTS

Follow Monty, go to: www.facebook.com/MontyRoberts and https://twitter.com/Monty_Roberts

March 19 to 20 Join Pat Roberts for the [Wild at Heart Women's Weekend](#) USA

March 21, 2016 [Horse Sense for Leaders](#) at Flag Is Up Farms in California 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/

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO

Veterinarian and Barrel Racer Dr. Kate Le Vasseur and Shannon Coakley of the Equus Foundation

Dr. Kate Le Vasseur grew up barrel racing and took her love of horses into research while studying to be a vet. She has some great news about the future of horse care. Shannon Coakley, Executive Director of the Equus Foundation, makes a positive impact on horses each and every day. Trainers Tip is Alicia Kershaw and Sara Jane Casey of Gallop NYC.

Horsemanship Radio Episode 51 by Index Fund Advisors IFA.com

Listen in...

<http://www.horsemanshipradio.com/2015/10/30/horsemanship-radio-episode-51-by-index-fund-advisors-ifa-com-veterinarian-and-barrel-racer-dr-kate-le-vasseur-and-shannon-coakley-of-the-equus-foundation/>

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.

Horse Radio Network's Free App is found on [iTunes for Apple](#) and [Google Play for Android](#).

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



Secure your own history & more that is unreachable and deemed unsafe.

Looking forward to your response,
Sincerely,
Brooke Finch

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/>



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/

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

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



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>

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/>

HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS NOW IN PAPERBACK!



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-

[1&keywords=Horse+Sense+for+Leaders](http://www.amazon.com/Horse-Sense-for-Leaders)

Paperback \$9.99 <http://amzn.to/1jqmgBc>
Color Version \$19.99 <http://amzn.to/1h31Psj>

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

"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.

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

Photo Credits

Christopher Dydyk

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.

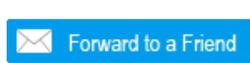
Read more on: <http://www.montyroberts.com/corigem/>

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.

Your email browser and follow the appropriate instructions.



Sincerely,
Monty Roberts

