



Wednesday September 14, 2016

Greetings! ,

This week, Monty answers a question about the use of rope halters to train horses.



Science Confirms It: Join-Up® is Gentle on Horses

September 2016, Solvang, California: A paper entitled "Monty Roberts' public demonstrations: Preliminary report on the heart rate and heart rate variability of horses undergoing training during live audience events" has been accepted for publication in the international journal, "Animals." Click here to read:

<http://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/6/9/55/htm>

Question

A halter with knots in it seems like a humane way to discipline horses. What is your opinion of knotted halters?

Answer

"I don't consider the knotted halter to be a training halter at all."

Dear Ken,

I have no problem with knotted halters. The knots in these nylon rope halters used to be for the singular purpose of forming the halter itself. Those hand-made nylon rope halters last forever. I have some that are more than 50 years old and still as effective as ever. You will seldom break one, they don't cost much to make and they are quite effective when used properly to tie a horse for long periods of time.

As the decades went by, someone pointed out that the knots were uncomfortable when there was tension on the halter. This, they asserted, made them a training halter. The theory was that when one tugged on the halter, it was uncomfortable, so the horse yielded to the pressure thereby performing the act requested by the horseman in charge. These statements are actually quite true.

My history with knotted rope halters precedes the **Dually Halter** by several decades. The birth of the Dually Halter came about because I observed that the principles involved in the Dually Halter causing it to shrink are far more educational for the horse than the knots ever could be. I don't consider the knotted halter to be a training halter at all but for many reasons the Dually Halter is a training halter superb.

With a training ring on each side, it allows you to longline and even ride comfortably and effectively with the Dually Halter. The bottom ring provides a position that simply creates the action of a traditional halter. With this position one can tie the horse up and not have pressure from knots or from the shrinkage of the Dually Halter. They are two different tools, both with significant value.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monty". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY
THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



This online video lesson shows Monty building trust through Join-Up with a horse who's afraid of clippers. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free and fun methods now.



Reminder: In the UK, Equus Online students get free early entry with their paid tickets and student IDs, which can be found inside their Equus Online profiles. For tour dates, go here:

http://www.montyroberts.com/ab_about_monty_calendar/see-monty/



NEW! FIND A MONTY ROBERTS CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

Check out our new [online tool to locate a Monty Roberts Certified Instructor](#) near you! All courses offered by certified instructors give students effective tools to communicate using the horse's own natural language, forming a partnership based on trust and communication rather than dominance. Visit the certified instructor web page here: <http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Galloping the Globe with Monty Roberts. Monty is back in California to lead summer clinics and training programs at his spectacular Flag Is Up

Farms.

USA September 24-25: Riding with Respect

October 15: Myerscough College

October 21: Hartpury College

October 26: Merrist Wood College

UK October 29: The Grange E.C.

November 3: Bishop Burton College

November 5: Arena UK

November 12: Your Horse Live



[**FULL SCHEDULE HERE**](#)

MONTY'S PRINCIPLES HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE



Dear Monty.

I like your answer. Yesterday I heard about a writer having just celebrated his 70th. From what he said a certain sadness a la "my life is over" sprung. I myself am on my way to my 78, I still take my old horse, 33, for a quiet walk through the forest. He loves it and so do I. And only a couple a days ago I saw him come galloping full speed up to me from the end of the paddock, stop next to me: "Well here I am! Shall we have some fun?"

Love

Helle



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

Hi Monty,

Last year in March I went off and suffered a separated clavicle which stopped my riding until mid-January of this year. In December when I could use my arm normally again, I asked the owner of the stables if I could stop by once a week and groom a mare that I once rode as a lesson horse. I am continuing to do that, we both find it quite enjoyable. For me, taking care of the horse and getting my hands on her does wonders for me.

My grooming routine also includes doing a Join-Up with her in the round pen and after that taking her for a walk. A few months ago, I took a friend with me to see the horses. When I took the mare into the round pen I asked ask him to close the gate behind me. As he stepped up to close the gate, the mare bolted and broke away from me, running in the pen with the lead rope still attached. I got her calmed down, removed the lead rope and did the Join-Up.

Since that day, whenever I take her into the round pen, with no one else nearby, she wants to bolt and I can hardly restrain her to get the lead rope off and close the gate.

Finally two days ago, knowing she wants to bolt, I held her tight going in to the pen but now she bolts out of my grasp anyway and I cannot restrain her. In other words, this behavior is continually getting worse.

I take this as a sign of great disrespect on her part for me. Our Join-Up sessions are wonderful after the fact, but I worry about this behavior as being dangerous should I possibly get tangled in the lead rope and she could trip on it and hurt herself. Also, I am worried that one of the young ladies that works with her might get similarly injured.

Is there anything you could tell me about how to rectify this problem? Right now I believe I should stop working with her. What a shame, we had so many nice grooming days together when we both got so much out of it.

Jim

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Al Dunning and Monty Roberts share their advice for those wanting to show reiners and cowhorses. These multiple world champions choose to train horses in the absence of violence or pain. Mitch Bornstein updates us on Samson, the Mustang that forgives and forgets his abusive past. Jamie Jennings reads a Monty's answer for the horse that refuses to jump.

[EPISODE 71 | LISTEN HERE](#)





REDUCING VIOLENCE THROUGH WORKSHOPS WITH HORSES IN ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

Lead-Up International (Affiliate of Join-Up International) is a program based around workshops with horses in which youth at risk are introduced to calm and humane ways of interacting with horses. Participants discover non-violence for themselves and develop a new sense of peaceful leadership.

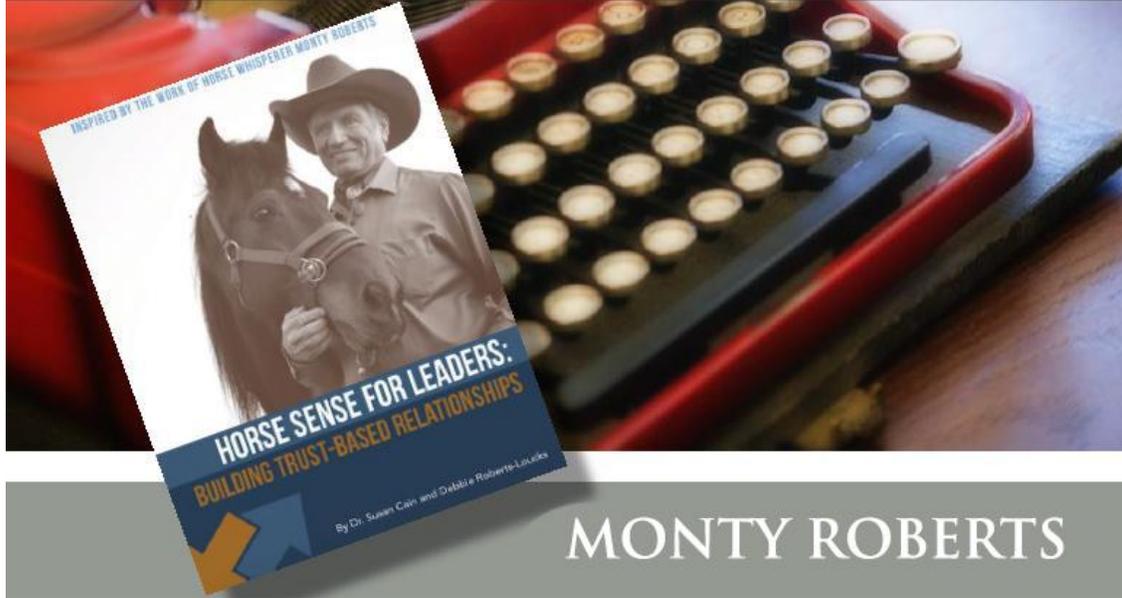
[READ MORE](#)

GIVING BACK TO VETERANS



Help support our war veterans and first responders by using [Our Link](#) to shop on Amazon Smile. Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of your purchase price to Monty's non-profit, Join-Up International. Through Join-Up International Monty is able to provide free clinics for war veterans, rescues horse, and more. You can also make a donation directly to Join-Up International [Here](#).

HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



Buying Monty's book, [Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships](#), is another great way to support Monty in his efforts. We have a [Paperback Version](#) and a [Color Version](#).

"Are leaders born or made? Follow the life of New York Times Best Selling Author and Horse Whisperer, Monty Roberts in the book Horse Sense for Leaders. Discover how Monty's life events shape his leadership style. Then, take our Trust Based Leadership Assessment to find out your own leadership style, and how to capitalize on your own unique leadership style." ~ Dr. Susan Cain, Corporate Learning Institute



Join-Up International | AskMonty@montyroberts.com | MontyRoberts.com

 Forward to a Friend

