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Wednesday January 25, 2017

Greetings! ,

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## Question

Horse Trailer Loading Difficulty: The mare is a 24-year-old Arab-Highland cross and is 14.2hh. She has loaded well, with only slight hesitations, into an lfor-Williams trailer (head space for two 16.3hh horses) a couple of times before.

This particular time she loaded well on the journey out but on the return trip she flatly refused to load. She approached the ramp to within about 6 feet and stopped, backed up some distance and planted herself with body leaning back and legs bracing forward. The only way to get her to move forward was to put her on a circle and within the circles moving closer to the trailer. When she was within the 6ft distance of the ramp the backing-up scenario started again. Eventually she was willing to at least stand near the ramp so we then had to physically lift each leg forward step by step onto the ramp and into the trailer. This whole episode took three of us close to one hour.

The question really is: is she afraid of being transported in the trailer, hence the refusal to load for the return journey, or is she simply being extremely stubborn? Traveling takes about 20 to 30 minutes and she does come off the trailer very slightly damp on her neck but looks totally calm when off loading.

This episode took place on open moorland so any artificial help such as walls or other implements are non-existent. A halter which tightens across the nose when pressure is applied is used but seems to have no effect on her mental determination not to be loaded.

On behalf of all of us, horse, rider and helpers, I thank you for your input into this quandary.

Kindest regards,  
Mrs. Verena McConnel

## Answer

There is no way for me to clearly express to you how often I hear the scenario you have just outlined. Respectfully allow me to say to you that there is one major mistake in how you address the problem. The statement I am referring to is the one where you say "the only way" to get her to come forward. Clearly it wasn't the only way because your description does not include my way.

My [Equus Online University](#) and my [From My Hands to Yours](#) textbook and my live demonstrations are loaded with the answers to this dilemma. Please remember that I have received more than 2800 non-loaders in my live demonstrations. One should also be aware of the fact that I have had no failures. With that in mind let me say to you that there are many, many ways to come by the needed information.

One might ask, "Do you think your horse would have loaded for me?" The most often heard response is 'Of Course! But that is just you.' Believe me - it is not just me. I have more than 80 instructors globally now and each can duplicate my loading procedures. You indicate that the loading took place in a wide open area with no alternatives available. This is a dilemma that one should, at all times, try to avoid. Learning to load properly should be accomplished in an environment with facilities appropriate to handling the difficult horse.

Please use these educational opportunities, school your horse to the [Dually Halter](#) and then come back to me with the results. Schooling with the Dually at home utilizing tarpaulins, mock bridges and difficult objects under foot, will enhance your horses responses to the Dually. Remember please that your horse is just a horse and no matter what the difficulties are where loading is concerned your horse will handle these challenges if properly prepared.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monty", enclosed within a large, stylized circular flourish.

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

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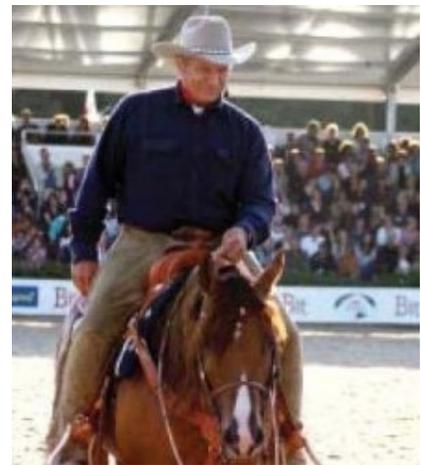
This online video series shows how to create a partnership with your horse. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free and fun methods now.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monty is home. You are welcome to visit [Flag Is Up Farms](#) and watch Monty's methods in action at his state-of-the-art training facility. The farm gates are open from 9 am to 5 pm daily, with no fee or reservation required.

- Brazil** March 11 to 12: [Near Sao Paulo](#)
- Scotland** March 18: Ingliston Country Club, Ingliston Estate, Bishopton, Renfrewshire, Scotland, UK
- England** March 25: Kingston Maurward College with MARTIN CLUNES, Dorchester, Dorset, UK
- Germany** March 31: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Munich
- Germany** April 7: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Elmshorn
- Germany** April 9: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Redefin



**Germany** April 20: Monty Roberts Germany Tour  
in Dorsten

**Germany** April 22: Monty Roberts Germany Tour  
in Alsfeld

**USA** July 10 to 21: Gentling Wild Horses  
California

**USA** July 31 to August 4: Monty's Special  
Training

[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

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## **THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER**

**February 4 to 5, 2017**

[Horsemanship 101](#)

**February 10 to 12, 2017**

[Horse Sense and Healing](#)

**February 20 to 23, 2017**

[Join-Up Course](#)

**February 24 to 25, 2017**

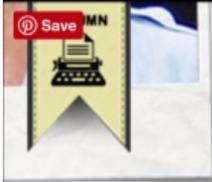
[Long Lining Course](#)

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE](#)

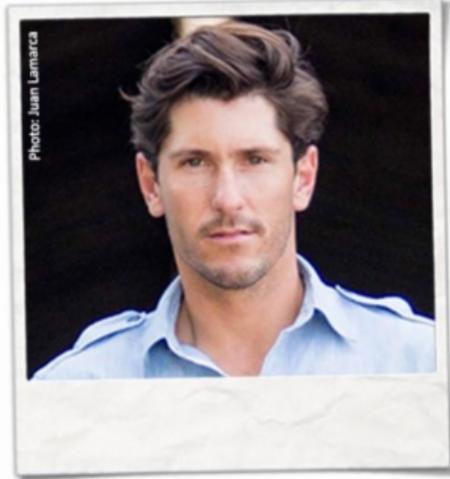
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## **MONTY'S PRINCIPLES HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE**





# THE INCREDIBLE MONTY ROBERTS



Nic Roldan

As readers of ClickPolo will know I'm an ambassador to Brooke USA however did you know world renowned Monty Roberts ([www.MontyRoberts.com](http://www.MontyRoberts.com)) is also part of the Brooke ([www.TheBrooke.org](http://www.TheBrooke.org)) family? So I've asked him to collaborate with me to write a monthly column here on ClickPolo. He has dedicated his life to "leaving the world a better place than he found it for horses and people too"

Monty is a not infrequent visitor to polo in Santa Barbara and in fact has worked with several polo players including Joel Baker, the Gracida brothers, Cambiaso and Nacho Figueras. Monty feels that polo is one of the equestrian disciplines more open to his methods. He is making great strides in educating people in Brazil for example to perhaps rethink their approach to "breaking in horses" and look into other ways of doing it. Here parallels can be drawn with the old methods used in Argentina, although natural horsemanship has been making strides there too. Monty's philosophy is of never blaming people for using the only methods they know, but rather help them through education.

He feels that as the level of the polo has increased and thus the pony power increases, that we have had to look into all the ways we can improve each process and Monty's methods have played a key role in that. He has concluded that all horses speak the same language but that perhaps the modern day thoroughbred polo pony needs a little more care and patience to start them compared to the more criollo type but that by using non-violent methods this was possible and that the ponies are more relaxed and therefore safer in the game.

Next month he will give an introduction to his Join-Up metho. Till next week, Nic ([www.NicRoldan.com](http://www.NicRoldan.com))

## 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](mailto: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

I bought a new horse mid-October and I think I am out of my league with him. He's a 12 year old, 17.1h sports-bred gelding, currently competing in national level jumping competitions. Under saddle and once tacked up, he is the nicest horse in the world and I have developed a very strong bond with him, on my part at least. As I suffer from anxiety attacks, I sometimes completely lose my nerve and he is a calm, patient teacher to ride as much in the show ring as at home.

The problem is, when loose or on his headcollar, he is dangerous. I have known snappy and unhappy horses, but he is something entirely different and does actually scare me despite my best efforts to remain calm and assertive without ever showing aggression or violence.

He has a history of having been abused but has worked out how to fight back and win

against people. He can go from looking relaxed (loose bottom lip, soft eye, sideways ears), to twisting around and attacking his handler. He had a full vet check when I bought him and I do not believe that it is pain but more that he is expecting to be hurt.

One thing that we have all noticed about him is that immediately after showing aggression, he sticks his tongue out of the side of his mouth and curls it around (Not just the tip, but as far out as he can put it before curling it up). I am still attempting to get a picture or video of his behavior. Is this his way of exhibiting how much stress he feels he is under?

When loose or in his stable, it is any time that he is approached apart from when being caught that he will attack. For example I can walk up to him without so much as a grimace if I am putting his headcollar on, but if I need to do anything else, he will go for me. I know it is because he is reading my intentions. By attacking I do not mean lays his ears back or simply nips, but he will launch himself forwards and grab any part of a person he can reach with all his strength.

Though he scares me, I am quite prepared to keep working with him. I don't believe in giving up because I am not experienced enough, I made a commitment in buying him and I want to do my best to learn to handle him. The last thing I want is to have to give him up, as I know it will end with him being destroyed or being locked inside for the rest of his life. I am not an expert but what I can say is that he is not happy with the way he feels he has to behave. There is a very good, clever horse in there and he deserves to be happier than he currently is.

My biggest fear is that if he hurts me then the matter will be out of my hands and he will be put to sleep, and I do not believe that it is right or fair that he lose his life because of how people have made him behave. I have tried working on a basis of quietness and mutual respect, but I worry that it is not enough. He responds to the Dually headcollar very nicely, moving with me perfectly through everything I ask of him, so it is not just a plain lack of respect all around, but more that he gets 'triggered'.

When working on touching his 'trigger spots' in the Dually headcollar, he is tense and rigid but will allow me to work with him. He has very good 'social skills' with other horses (his body language is easy for anyone to read), but I honestly do not have the confidence to do Join-Up with him as I am pretty certain that he would attack me.

Taking him to one of your Recommended Associates is no longer an option as the one who was within a feasible distance (who actually started my other horse) has since moved country. Please, what can I do to help him? Is there any way that I can make his life one that he enjoys, rather than living in fear?

Thank you so much,  
Emily-Jane

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### ONLINE REVIEW: DUALY HALTER

Hi, I have purchased the red Dually training halter and have used it with great results on my 18 month old Arabian gelding. He would dawdle along with me, not taking any notice of anything much, but with one gentle training session with the Dually halter he now walks confidently alongside me, listening to my commands.

Really pleased with the halter - highly recommend it to all!

Deborah L.  
Verified Buyer  
10/26/16

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**HORSEMANSHIP RADIO**



Jennifer O'Niell, famous for her role in *The Summer of '42*, starred opposite John Wayne in *Rio Lobo*. She now gives her time and heart to Hope and Healing at Hillenglade™ providing Military Veterans and their families the therapeutic wonder of horses. Maren Luedemann is a mentor, life coach, and 30+ years in horse training. Jamie Jennings reads Ask Monty about horses on roads.

[\*\*EPISODE 80 | LISTEN HERE\*\*](#)

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## FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS



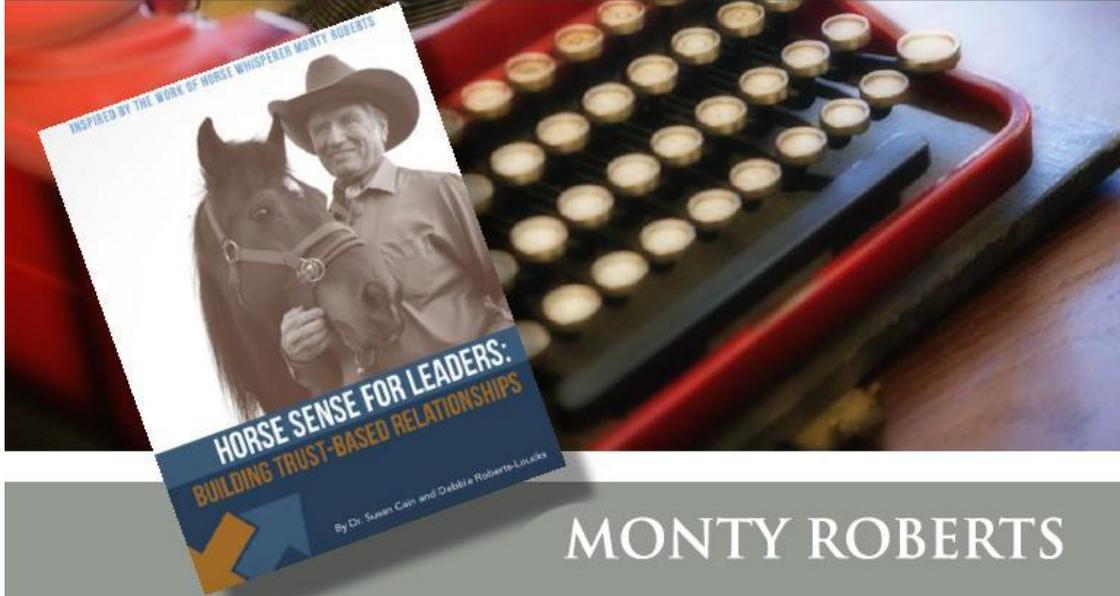
Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. Join-Up offers everyone an effective tool to rediscover themselves through the eyes of the horse. This self-awareness exercise deals effectively with emotional trauma, anti-social behavior and withdrawal, anger, stress, combat stress and even Post Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI). [READ MORE](#)



\*December 9 to 11, 2016: Monty's Horse Sense and Healing. For more information <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>

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## 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**.

### WINNERS AT THE EQUUS FILM FESTIVAL!



Jeanine Moret (left) and Monty Roberts

Best Equestrian Music Video - Mini 2016  
People's Choice. Monty Roberts Producer, Jeanine Moret Director  
<https://vimeo.com/180806470>

Best Equine Educational Training - Human Susan Cain, EdD, LCSW -  
Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships By Dr. Susan  
Cain and Debbie Roberts-Loucks, foreword by Monty Roberts <http://tinyurl.com/johxoh6>

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

See all entries here: <http://nebula.wsimg.com/55b6102230313956404cdbc3d11dde9c?AccessKeyId=8D3373E05A6D33D4B706&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

"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



## REDUCING VIOLENCE THROUGH WORKSHOPS WITH HORSES IN ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

Lead-Up International (Affiliate of Join-Up International) is a program based on 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](#)



## FIND A MONTY ROBERTS CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

Find [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/>



Join-Up International | [AskMonty@montyroberts.com](mailto:AskMonty@montyroberts.com) | [MontyRoberts.com](http://MontyRoberts.com)

 Forward to a Friend

