



Wednesday March 1, 2017

Greetings! ,

Katie Pokorny and our Certified Instructors lead the way in the development of peaceful leaders. Ten instructors were certified by Join-Up International to impart Lead-Up workshops in nine different countries. Lead-Up workshops will now be available in Australia, Austria, Brazil, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These instructor certifications mean that Monty Roberts will be reaching more vulnerable youth than ever before and creating peaceful leaders around the globe. Read more at: <http://www.join-up.org/lead-up/>.



Left to right: Katie Pokorny, founder of Lead-Up International, with Monty Roberts Certified Instructors Caron Whaley (UK); Martina Hoebing (Austria); Courtney Dunn (USA); Chris Morris (UK); Csilla Csaszar (Hungary); Caitriona O'Meara (Ireland); Mindy Grantham (Lead-Up Team); Miguel Lupiano (Brazil).

Question

I'm at a bit of a loss as to what to do with my six-year-old mare. She seems to lack confidence in herself when out hacking, she sees and hears everything that's going on. Getting her to concentrate on me is a real mission. She seems fine with things that would spook other horses i.e. people up ladders working, diggers etc but dead ferns in the hedge are really terrifying! We have an inkling that narrow places and wider spaces are the main problem areas, if we're on a lane that's wide enough for a car to pass comfortably she's happy and will walk out with confidence, as soon as it narrows or widens too much she becomes almost withdrawn and starts to panic.

A couple of months ago I started to work on stopping her napping going out of my yard with considerable success, so she's happy to leave it's now the bits in the middle. Some places we go I can see why she gets worried, we have a bridge to cross and the parapets are about hock height on her, so that's kind of understandable. A friend comes with us on foot for her to lean on when really needed which probably isn't the best idea but the mare would run backwards in a panic, now she's calmer with my friend around. Any advice would be gratefully can received.

Thank You.
Joy Nicholls

Answer

Dear Joy,

This is an interesting question and it calls for a bilateral solution. One is that the scenario you've described would encourage me to explore your horse's vision. Several references in this scenario makes me worry a bit about your horse not being able to see things clearly. I am not a veterinarian and I feel that the potential for this to be a problem with vision is probably a low percentage. It is true however that it can be the case and should be eliminated before discussing hands on training problems.

Its always advisable to start these conversations by encouraging you to achieve Join-Up with your horse, if you haven't done so already. This builds trust between you both. Having said that, it occurs to me that if I were in your position I would ride my horse in a safe area where the negative behavior occurs so I could somehow put the horse to work vigorously.

I prefer cantering in small circles and I am thinking this may be possible if one could ride near an hedge where the potential for putting this horse to work in an open field is available to me. There are two aspects of this method that have worked well for me in the past. One is to create a distraction with the work so that the horse sees the problem and then vacates that concern by getting ready to go to work. The other aspect is that the horse views the work as a negative instant consequence and decides that the scary object is not as scary as they first thought they were.

Sincerely,



MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monty is home at his beautiful horse training facility in California!

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
Hungary	April 30: More information to come soon!
USA	July 10 to 21: Gentling Wild Horses California
USA	July 31 to August 4: Monty's Special Training

[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER

March 6 to 17, 2017	Introductory Certification Course
March 27 to 31, 2017	Introductory Exam

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE](#)



ONLINE REVIEW: MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNI

"I have studied Monty's work off and on through many years, read all his books, as well as others. He is the only one, to me, who remains humble and focused on the horse. After looking around a great deal I set my sights back on him as the last of the old timers and I shoved all the others' work out of the way and invested in the [Equus Online University](#) library. You couldn't pry it from my fingertips." Barb A.

MONTY'S PRINCIPLES HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE



Dear Monty and Pat,

Thank you for your kind Invitation to Lead Up International Fundraiser on Saturday 18th February 2017. How I would love to come.

Regrettably my 91-year-old Magic Carpet is too thread-bare for the long journey. However I shall await hopefully, to hear news of it all in your weekly Newsletters that I so enjoy.

With great admiration for all you do with horses.

Yours sincerely,
Jean Grant

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,

Firstly I must say how much I love your methods. Without a Dually Halter I don't think I would have achieved so much with my ex-racehorse that I am retraining for dressage (and jumping, and hacking out).

However we do have an issue with loading on my horsebox. Lucy pretends she can't step onto the ramp. She plants, changes the subject (oh, look at that tree over there, that's an interesting sky etc etc!) It is very difficult to get her unstuck.

Stick with bags lifted behind her worked for a while, then running the bags over her rump and down her back legs worked. Then tickling her chest worked. A couple of times holding the stick and bags behind her and guiding her to the ramp (and up) has worked. I always use a Dually Halter and a 20 foot line. Sometimes simple pressure and release works. Sometimes walking her in a circle gets her energy up sufficiently that she then almost leads me up the ramp.

I've tried leading her over poles, small logs, halting, backing up, all to get her engaged. This works some times but not always.

When she is ready to load there is no stopping her, but until she is ready it is like leading her through glue! She jumps onto the ramp and then canters up it. She can't step on and walk.

Once I've got her on the first time, loading after that is easy (on that day). But she always jumps onto the ramp and canters up. However, the next time we are back to square one.

I've tried practicing every day, I've tried only loading her when we're going anywhere. Sometimes she has several good sessions loading and I think we've got it sorted, other times it almost seems to make it worse.

She travels really well - I have to take extra hay rations as I can guarantee that most of her hay will be gone by the time we arrive for competition or training. Often she will refuse to come off the lorry, enjoying the views from up high!

I would like to try somehow raising the ramp so it's not so steep, but am unsure how to do that as it needs to be very strong to take the weight of the ramp, but then would also need to be moveable so I can move it out of the way so I can move the lorry when we get back home. And the step up needs to be reduced. It's not that much - my other horses manage, but not Lucy!

Interestingly my other mare will only load for me - she was harshly treated before I got her eleven years ago and she really only trusts me. My gelding was terrified, but using pressure and release, leading forwards, backing up he will now load and travels well.

Any suggestions would be gratefully received.

Thank you very much
Angela Bishop
Norfolk
Great Britain

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We asked Monty to share with us about training equipment that works with the horse's mind, rooted in the natural instincts of the horse. Arizona-based equestrian author Carly Kade shares her experience at the Equus Film Festival. Jamie Jennings reads Ask Monty on Foal Imprinting.

[EPISODE 82 | LISTEN HERE](#)



FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

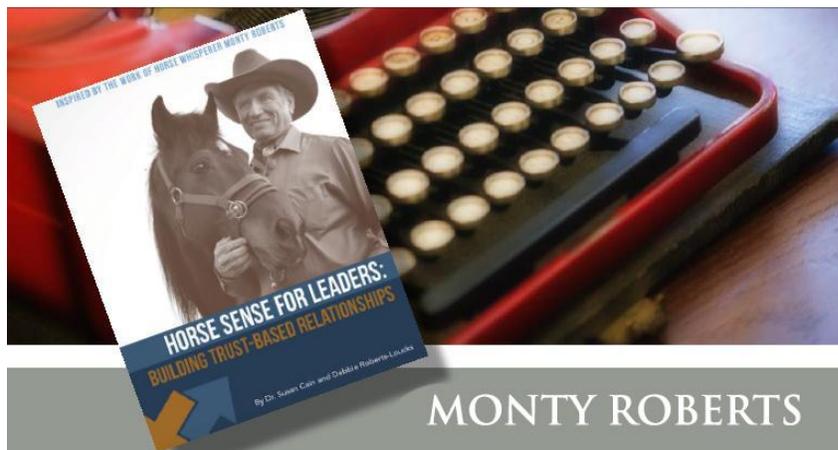


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. 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](#)



*February 10 to 12 and May 19 to 21 are Monty's next Horse Sense and Healing workshops. For more information <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>

HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



MONTY ROBERTS

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](#).

Paperback \$9.99 <http://amzn.to/1jqmgBc>

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

"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
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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/>



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