

Wednesday June 21, 2017

Greetings! ,



Monty with veterans Tam and Steff participating in Monty's Horse Sense and Healing at Nic Roldan's charity event. The beautiful grounds at Cowdray House made a perfect backdrop for Sunset Polo to benefit The Brooke Animal Welfare and Chestnut Tree Children's charity. Thank you all who made this happen.



Photo credit: Horse Hour

## Question

Dear Monty,

I have read all your books and followed your training for the last 10 years and am a member of your [Equus Online University](#). I also had the privilege of meeting you at your ranch during a soldier's retreat. I have used your Join-Up and Follow-Up to gentle over 50 horses in the last 5 years. Some have been green broke, some have been untouched and others abused. They have ranged from 2 years old to as old as 15 and your methods have always worked. I am now working with a 2 ½ year old Tennessee mare that was turned out by herself, after being weaned and has had no contact with other horses.

During Join-Up she gave all the cues and came into me and did follow up without hesitation. While she has never been haltered, after two days of working with her in the round pen I have been able slowly gain her trust. She has allowed me to touch her and rub all over her but she still has not allowed me to place the line or halter on her although she is very interested in the [Dually Halter and long line](#) and will even touch it with her nose when asked. I believe once I get the Dually on her, she will respond and progress quickly. I intend to use a chute, like the one in your gentling pen to get her used to the halter, or is this a mistake?

Furthermore, I don't believe I have achieved Join-Up in the true sense in that although she gave all the signs and Joined Up and Followed Up, there appeared to be a disconnect between what she does and her truly understanding why she is doing it. I am not sure how to explain it but it is like she instinctively goes through the motions, but doesn't understand the why of it, if that makes sense? So my question is, is this because she was not socialized with other horses or am I completely missing something?

Also, are there other things I should look for or expect from her in her training that I have not encountered with other horses I have gentled? I have searched the Equus Forum and Question and Answers and didn't see this specific issue addressed but did see

your response to Orphans in which you stated "Orphans present us with challenges that are so individual we must use our experience to tailor our training to the challenge on hand."

This is the first horse I have ever worked with that was not raised with other horses and I would really appreciate your thoughts. Finally, have you ever worked with unsocialized horse and if so do you believe it can become a good reliable trail horse with the proper time and training?

God Bless,  
Jacky O.

## Answer

Thank you. Let me reverse your inquiry by stating that I do believe that you can train virtually any horse to be a well trained trail horse. Since this is a mare we are discussing, it is probable that she will tend to defend herself if crowded into a small space by a group of other horses. This is the nature of Equus the female. If trail riding is desired while riding alone, there is obviously no problem. A small group of individuals familiar to your mare increases the potential for success in creating a safe trail horse. Just remember that Equus the female will tend to protect herself from invaders.

With regard to the [Dually Halter](#), I am pleased to hear that you have a chute available. This is extremely helpful in putting on the first halter. I would suggest that you create an artificial arm. Use that arm to cause your mare to accept a human like object in all areas of her body that you can reach safely. The neck and head are critical in this effort. I suggest you use a long line or a long rope and pass it over the neck of your mare while in the chute. Use the artificial arm instead of your own as much as possible. Once you can place the rope around the neck of your mare, tie a bowline knot in it so that one can begin to alter the position of the head and neck with the rope.

Completing that, tie about 3-4 feet of baling twine to the top strap of the halter and begin to pass the halter over the neck allowing it to hang down on the far side of your mare. One can begin to hook the halter with the artificial arm so that you can hold it by the buckle. One can tie the halter off so that it is hanging around the horses neck allowing her to learn that its no danger to her. While it is there, begin to massage her nose area with the glove on the end of the artificial arm. The glove should be soft and filled with material that would pad it so that there is no hard bumping of the nose area.

You will have fun then using innovation to figure out how to get the halter over the nose. The use of a conventional halter is easier to place and will habituate your mare to accept the movements so that later putting on the Dually Halter will be much easier. Keep us posted as to the progress. Have fun and I think you will be surprised as how quickly your mare will wear the Dually Halter. Continue to watch our Equus Online Uni lessons to watch for the areas where you are referring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monty", written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

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

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In this online video series, Monty discusses the principles of good riding. 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.



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- AUSTRIA** July 2: The Spanish Riding School invites Monty Roberts
- USA** July 10 to 21: [Gentling Wild Horses](#) California
- USA** July 28 to 30: [Horse Sense and Healing](#) in California
- USA** July 31 to August 4: [Monty's Special Training](#)
- USA** September 8 to 10: [Horse Sense and Healing](#) in California
- USA** September 15 to 16: [Equus International](#)



Film Festival

**UK**            October: Monty Tours United Kingdom

**USA**            December 8 to 10: Horse Sense and Healing  
in California

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

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**THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER**

June 24 to 25, 2017

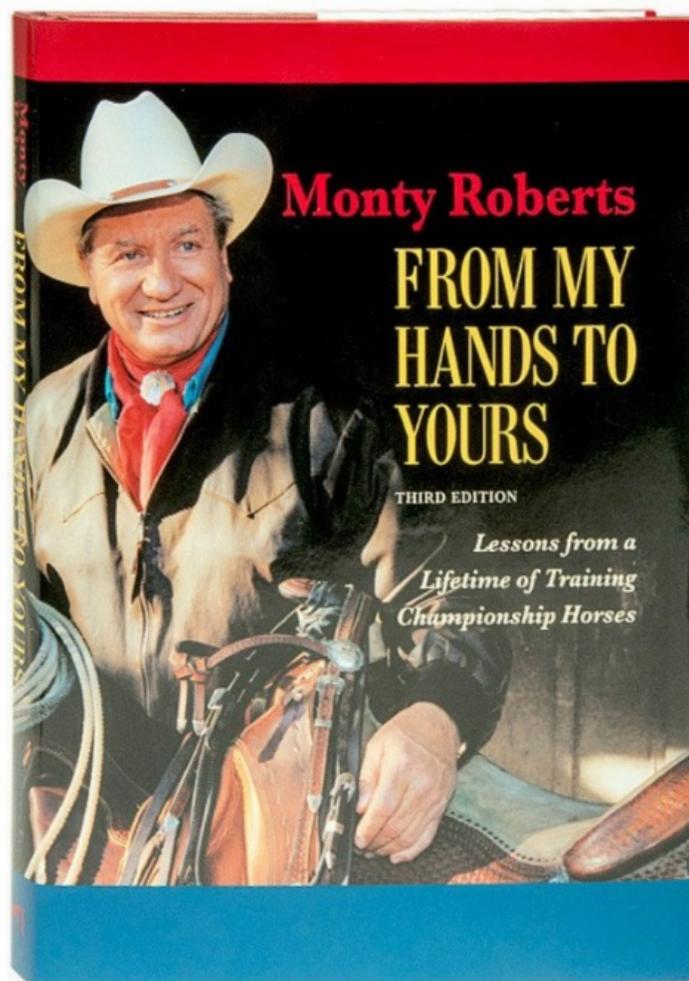
Kids' Course

July 2 and 3, 2017

Kids' Course

**[MORE COURSE INFO HERE](#)**

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**ONLINE REVIEW: FROM MY HANDS TO YOURS**

"Every time I pick up this book to read/study another chapter, I find something to help me teach or approach my horse in a positive way."



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## MONTY'S PRINCIPLES HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE



Dear Mr Roberts,

I thought it would be nice to share this with you, having listened eagerly to your teachings since watching you on telly when I was just 12 and trying to follow them with my own horses ever since.

I have six horses who were having a visit from the farrier. During this visit, four weeks ago I tripped and fell in the field whilst going to catch my little bay mare. As I fell I heard my leg snap, leaving me completely unable to move. My husband and farrier came running toward me before they reached me, my young gelding (rising five, who I've had since he was six months old) ran over to me, he was wickering and trotting around me, sniffing and calling to the others. Three of my other horses rushed over and also started trotting around my head, heads low, all wickering and weaving.

My farrier stood by my head to keep me safe whilst we waited for the ambulance, he told my husband that he was shocked as he had never seen behavior like it, ever! I'm out of hospital now and although it will be a while before I can walk, I can't wait to go and see my horses again. I wanted to just take a minute to thank you for inspiring me for

the last 32 years something I definitely attribute to the amazing show of love in return from my best friends when I was so vulnerable in their field.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,  
Melanie Roche

## 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 am in the unique position of having twins. My colts were born on May 27, 2016, and are thriving, against all odds. They are physically perfect, X-rays are all clean despite having rubbery legs at birth. They were about four weeks early. I have found no information on training them. They are exceptionally bonded to each other, much more than to their brother who was born the day before. They were on stall rest for the first 6 weeks of their lives and handled extensively. I work with a trainer who had the privilege of spending time at Mr. Roberts' farm and he has been part of our handling of the foals. My specific question is, should I separate the twins? I am concerned at how bonded they are, they move in tandem in the paddock, but I don't want to traumatize them by separating them too young. If I separated them I would be inclined to move one off property. They will be gelded in the next few weeks. Any guidance you could provide would be much appreciated.

Evelyn Huber

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## HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



On this episode we get to know the R.E.A.C.T. team. In November of 2016 these two riders, four horses and without any on hand support, may have become the youngest riders ever to ride some 1400 km on horseback across South Africa. Dr. Rojek shares the amazing work he does for high performance equine athletes in the United Kingdom.

[EPISODE 89 | LISTEN HERE](#)



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**FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

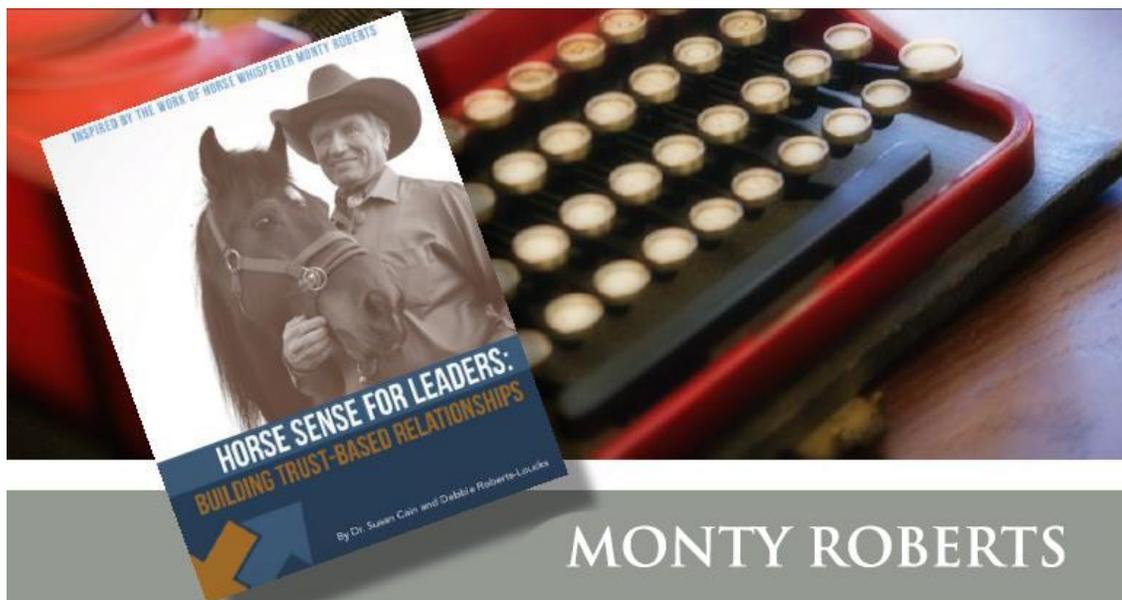


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect.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



May 19 to 21 is Monty's next Horse Sense and Healing workshop. For more information, go to: <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>

## 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](#).

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 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/>



**HRTV**



 Forward to a Friend

