



Wednesday January 31, 2018

Greetings! ,

Is it best for a foal to be raised by people or horses? Find out Monty's thoughts on this topic in his question and answer column below.



Question

Hi Monty,

I am from Australia and have been looking after an abandoned Brumby foal. He had fallen into a hole and his mother had left him. A friend rescued him and gave him to a non horse family. We looked after him while they were on vacation. He is now 5 weeks old. My question is, he was getting much bigger and stronger in the weeks he was with us

and starting rearing and testing us.

He is bottle fed but starting to drink his formula from a bucket. I've tried to mix hard feed in with milk powder to get him to start eating hard feed. He is also eating grass on his own. He is very handled and not scared at all, and has had a halter on a few times and handled it well. He is feeding every 2-3 hours and sleeps immediately after for an hour or so. Through the night he feeds every 4 hours or so. He is kept in a grassy house yard away from the herd and can't even really see them. Photos attached.

Would it be best to let him into my herd to learn right from wrong and bring him back in much later, or do we continue hand rearing and teaching him discipline ourselves? I feel like he will be a handful and dangerous for a non horse family.

Thank you. No one really knows what to do with him here in Australia!

Erin, Australia



Answer

Dear Erin,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Brumby foal. I must speak with you in general terms, as I am unable to see the specific behavior of the foal in question. It is however clear to me that the foal has already begun to feel more human than horse. If we are to raise a foal such as this to be as normal as possible, we must take every opportunity to allow them the company of horses more than with humans.

Please be aware of the need to eliminate food coming from the human body. I have had good luck when I was able to find a nurse mare that would accept a foal like this. This is not easy to accomplish and I get the feeling from reading your words that it would be virtually impossible for you. The next best results I have received was when I could allow the foal to mix with other mares and foals, and take nourishment from a goat. I have found that if one can fabricate a bit of a stand for the goat, the foal can nurse at about the same level as a mare's udder would be.

I have trained goats to get a bit of sweet feed when they jump up on the stand and enter a small hallway designed to keep them from falling off the stand. These are not easy to accomplish but the difference they make in the adult horse is dramatic. The male foal that is reared by humans will virtually always be an aggressive adult very dangerous for humans to work with. A female foal will also be dangerous, but not as bad as the aggression shown by the male.

Reducing the contact of humans should be your primary objective. While it is acceptable to school to the halter and do some leading, it is not acceptable to enter the social existence of these young horses. They should be given the right to be of their own species and not take on the thought that they are part human.

Good luck with making the necessary changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monty", with a large, sweeping underline that loops back under the name.

MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY
THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



This online video series shows how Monty worked with Chico, a wild pony. Learn how to build your core strength and balance. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free, fun methods.



UPCOMING EVENTS

"I met you at Richmond and you showed us the principle of walking across the front of a pony to get him to walk forward and follow. I had the opportunity to try this on a pony that had planted himself. It worked! I only did it once and he walked off and followed me. Thank you and please, please visit England again this year!" A.M.

UK March 3, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Myerscough College](#), Bilsborrow, Lancs, PR3 0RY

UK March 7, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Hadlow College](#), Hadlow, Kent, TN1 0AL

UK March 17, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [The Grange - with Special Guest "Martin Clunes"](#), Okehampton, Devon EX20 3DA

Ireland March 24, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Cavan Equestrian](#)



[Centre Ltd](#), near Dublin.

USA April 21 to 22, 2018: West Coast Dressage Convention, Los Angeles, California, featuring Edward Gal, Hans Peter Minderhoud and Monty Roberts. Tickets from: www.shproductions.ca

USA May 23 to 24, 2018:
The Movement in Solvang with Monty and Pat Roberts, Speakers, Demonstrations

[Symposium and Awards Dinner ticket](#)
or [Symposium only ticket](#)
or [Awards Dinner only ticket](#)

USA July 23 to August 3, 2018: [Gentling Wild Horses course](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California

USA August 6 to 10, 2018: [Monty's Special Training](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California

[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER

February 19 to 22, 2018

[Join-Up Course](#)

February 23 to 24, 2018

[Long Lining Course](#)

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE, CHECK OUT OUR 2018 COURSES!](#)



ONLINE PRODUCT REVIEW: MONTY'S SUPPORT TEAM

"Many thanks for the great website, which makes it easy to purchase your products. We already owned a [Dually Halter](#), so when we got another horse, it was an easy decision to again go for such a great Do-It-All halter. When our order to New Zealand went astray in the post, your customer support representative, Adam, came to the rescue to sort it all out.

As a customer with a lost package, I felt supported at all times, and it was clear to me that you have an excellent customer service team that focuses on customer satisfaction, ensuring things are put right ASAP. We had such a great buying experience, and knowing that your team holds customer service/satisfaction in such high regard makes it a positive process for us to buy again, and to also tell others of the great service, quality product, and your commitment to the customer. Many thanks for this positive experience."

Lawrence W.
Verified Buyer

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



Dear Monty,

We all send our big thanks for the part you played in opening our eyes to another way of helping these intelligent gentle souls or those of us that new there was another way but were not sure where to start.

Amanda Mannix

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!

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION

Dear Monty,

I purchased a six-year-old Arabian mare 1.5 years ago. I did not realize it at that point but she has obviously had learned to continue to pull until something breaks when she is tied especially at a hitch rail. I think it starts as panic but she is smart and does not stop until something gives.

She learned to break bungee cords. A Blocker tie ring and tying overhead gets me a short period of standing still and some work has improved her reaction when something pulls on her head in general. My goal for her is to be my primary trail horse but I am looking for a kinder method than just tie her solid and hope she doesn't hurt herself.

Do you have any material to purchase that addresses this issue or any thoughts? I have not addressed this before. I primarily use your methods and John Lyons methods when working with my horses. I have started two from scratch so this is really only my fifth horse in 30 years of riding. I am in Southern Indiana if there is someone in this area you would recommend.

Thank you,
Shelly Underwood Hendrix

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



American Endurance Ride Conference Membership Committee Chairman Mary Howell has a passion for riding and writing all about horses! And veterinarian Dr. Kenton Morgan of Equine Technical Services, Zoetis US, put a great list of tips on caring for your horse, month by month, through the seasonal needs. Jamie Jennings reads Monty's answer about cribbing.



FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

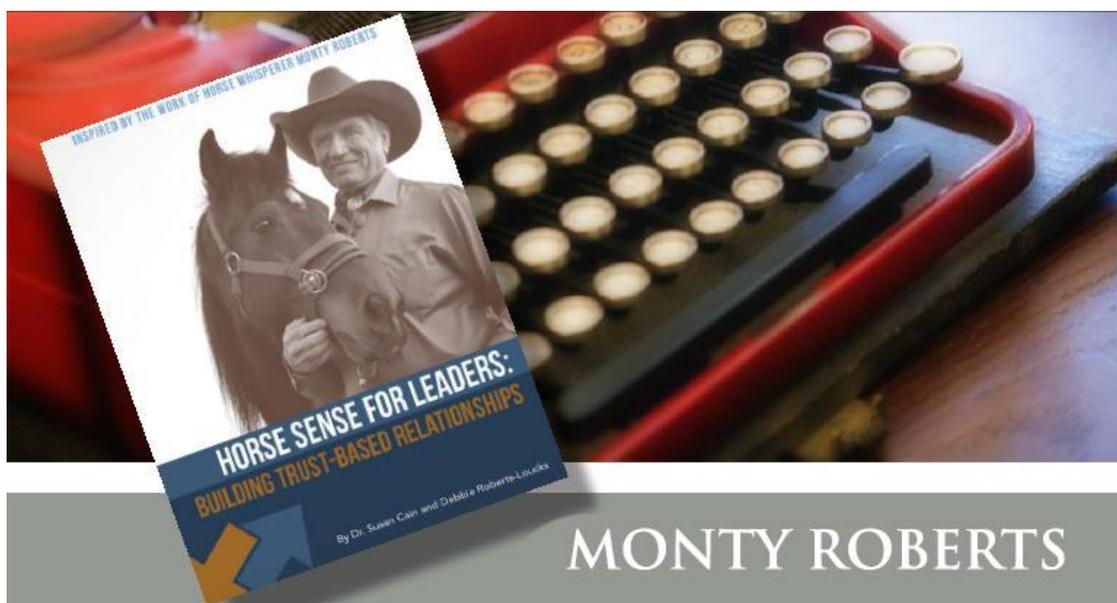


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect.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



To find out about Monty's upcoming Horse Sense and Healing workshops and 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 GLOBALLY

Lead-Up is a program of Join-Up International 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/>



LEAVE A LEGACY

Planned gifts to Join-Up International's non-profit organization, such as a bequest in your will or trust, help to secure the future of non-violent concepts. To learn more, go to:

<http://www.join-up.org/how-to-help/> or to donate in support to Join-Up International, go to:
<https://montyrobertsshop.com/collections/courses/products/donate-join-up-international>



[Join-Up International](#) | AskMonty@montyroberts.com | MontyRoberts.com

 Forward to a Friend

