

Wednesday February 21, 2018

Greetings! ,

So, your horse can handle himself around flapping plastic bags and beach balls, but what would he do if you encountered a kangaroo?

Read Monty's question and answer below for his advice on building your horse's confidence.



Question

Dear Monty,

I live in Australia, where we have mobs of kangaroos roaming freely across the countryside. These animals are so well camouflaged as to be practically invisible until you're upon them, whereupon they suddenly start hopping away in all directions. As you can imagine, there are very few horses that will tolerate this behavior without shying to varying degrees!

Is there some way I could at least minimize my horse's shying to the roos, so I don't come flying off her each time? Would Join-Up help her to be more relaxed overall? Her big shies in response to the roos are unsafe, as well as unpleasant, for both me and her... and likely also for the roos.

Thanks,
Lisa Ariel

Answer

Dear Lisa,

Thank you very much for your inquiry. It is true that I have had this question come to me several times while in Australia. Without the knowledge of where you live it's difficult for me to pinpoint my suggestion, but I will attempt to give you a general answer in hopes that you can find a location similar to what I describe.

Much of my time has been spent in the Sydney area. Outside of the city, there are many properties which are complete with horses, mostly for family pleasure. Since there is a lot of open country to ride in, these riders find it wonderful to ride through the eucalyptus trees and over the rolling foothills around the Sydney area.

The circumstance you describe happens all too often for these generally novice riders. My recommendation to them is to find an animal park where kangaroos are often on display. There are many parcels around Sydney where kangaroos are predictably present much of the time. I suggest that one attempt to get as close as possible to a number of kangaroos and ride for sustained periods of time so that your horse is allowed to see the movements, the smells and the actions of these unusual creatures.

All horses are neophobic, and yet they can become accustomed to almost anything so long as it doesn't cause them pain or frighten them because of the fact that they are a "new look." There are many areas around Melbourne and certainly between the two cities many properties have heavy counts of a predictable nature where kangaroos are concerned.

I helped one young girl in Perth. She liked to ride her horse through the grape vineyards. During the season when the grapes were ripening, the kangaroos were plentiful. I had her ride a safe distance during these weeks when kangaroos seemed to be everywhere. Only gradually did I recommend that she ride her horse closer to the kangaroos. Eventually she could ride straight through the grapevines with kangaroos popping out everywhere.

Incrementally accustom your horse to the sight of kangaroos. Horses will get used to

almost anything.

Sincerely,



MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



This online video series shows how Monty works with a wild mustang called Diego. 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

May 23-24, 2018

THE MOVEMENT



DEMONSTRATIONS • DISCOVERIES • PATHWAYS

- 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

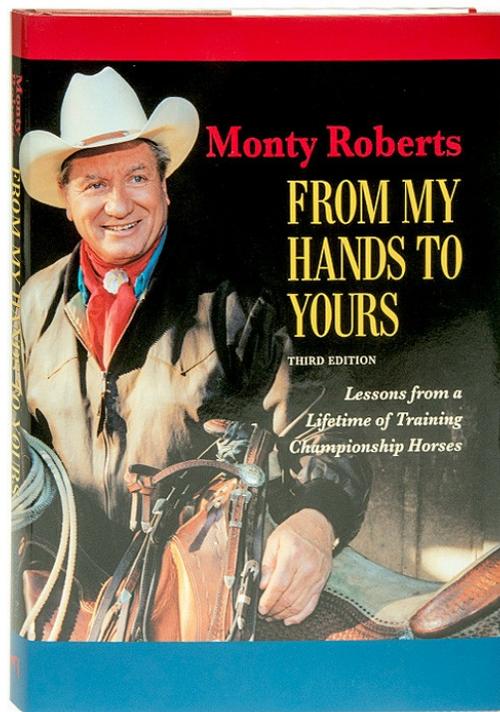
February 19 to 22, 2018

[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 TEXTBOOK

"Excellent. The book [[From My Hands to Yours](#)] is well written and very pertinent. It is a wonderful tool to understand horses. Thank you Mister Roberts."

Serge A.
Verified Buyer

[VISIT MONTY'S ONLINE STORE](#)

SUPPORT MONTY'S NON-PROFIT ORG WHEN YOU SHOP

AmazonSmile has the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you [shop on AmazonSmile](#), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice, [click here and support Join-Up International](#).



MONTY'S PRINCIPLES
HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE



From Monty's Equus Online University Forum <https://montyrobertsuniversity.com/forum>

"I must confess, after re-reading the different posts on this thread, I am in awe at the contributions that everyone has made to make the world just a little better for the horse and its people. This forum is distinguishing itself. We are all in a state of learning only at different junctions in life.

The exercise that was accomplished above is based upon many different aspects of horsemanship that have been handed down through time by horse people that would not settle for the so-called normal approach to the handling of horses that produced much coercion and force. Monty stood against these methods and, for many years was, for the most part, pretty much by himself. He did stand the test of time and we now have this [Equus Online University](#). THANK YOU SIR.

I believe that our number one goal in horsemanship is to bring about the aspect of RESPECT from us to the horse and from the horse to us. The more relaxed state that we can achieve this in, the better the relationship. This where our soft leadership becomes the oil that lubricates the twists and turns of the training program. TIME cannot be a factor with the training of a horse. Learning to stay in the moment, while listening, will pay huge dividends."

~ bahila73

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.

I'm pleased to say I have had great success using Join-Up and your halter in the range of horses which include Polocrosse and Warmbloods for dressage. I have a dilemma however with a Thoroughbred three-year-old racehorse who is with a young trainer (recently set up from overseas in Victoria, Australia) who is experiencing trouble at the barriers. This I believe I can manage with your halter.

But my dilemma is with my desire to Join-Up with this filly. As the syndicate manager, I don't want however to have the owners feel that I may have interfered and taken "the edge" off the filly's desire to run.

I know you have had a lot of experience with gallopers. Presuming the horse has the ability, do you believe there is any risk in reducing the desire to gallop through Join-Up?

No doubt a silly question as I believe I know your answer but would appreciate your insight.

Best regards,
Richard Martin

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Bill Farish of the famous Lane's End Farm joins Monty Roberts to discuss why they support the Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA) to prohibit the use of performance-enhancing drugs in horse racing. Kate Burke is renowned for her varied equestrian subjects that are works of art. Listen in on her dream to photograph one type of horse that has evaded her.

[EPISODE 106 | LISTEN HERE](#)



FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

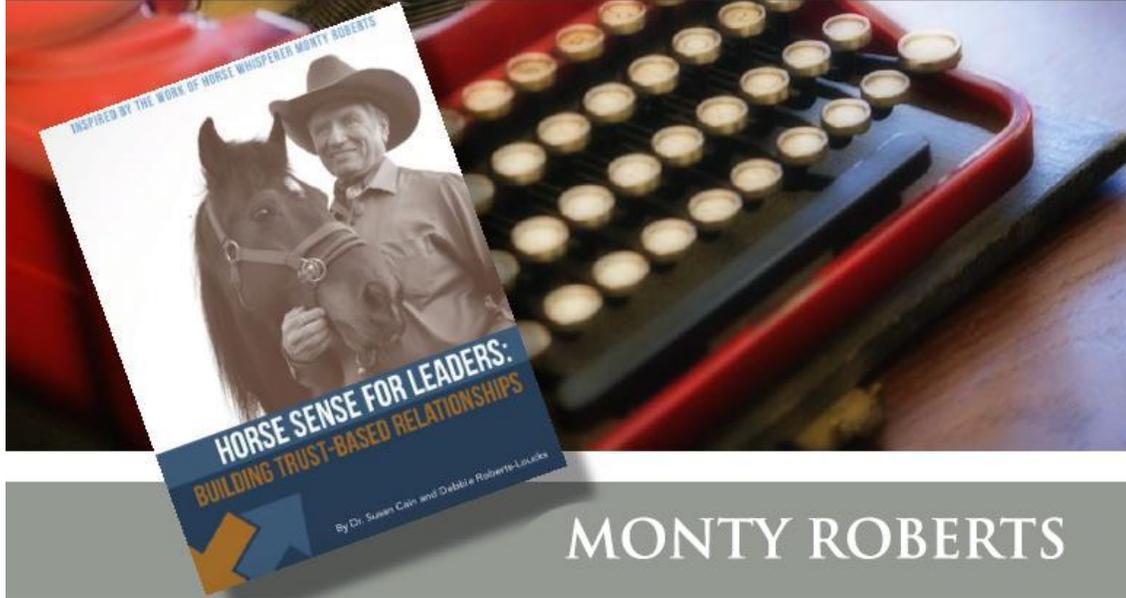


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect.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



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](http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/) 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

