

The Principles of Training



THE PRINCIPLES OF TRAINING

MAKE THE WRONG THING HARD AND THE RIGHT THING EASY

■ The basic tenant of this principle is leave your horse alone while he is doing what you want.

DON'T GO TO BED ANGRY

■ When your horse is no longer relaxed, you need to get him relaxed again before proceeding. (Like a married couple, if anything has built up during the day, get rid of it before you go to bed.)

CREATE A TOOL BEFORE YOU USE A TOOL

■ When solving a problem you need to make sure the tool or exercise you are using to solve the problem is fully functional before you use it.

APPLICATION OF YOUR AIDS

■ Also known as order of cues, this principle is very important in teaching a horse how to respond to subtlety.

DO THE OPPOSITE

■ As the olde English saying goes "You ride a slow horse fast and a fast horse slow."

THE DONKEY KONG PRINCIPLE

■ This horse training principle, like Donkey Kong or any other video game, relies on the idea that whenever you get something wrong, you return to the beginning and start all over again.

CHOOSE WHERE YOU WORK AND CHOOSE WHERE YOU REST

■ Be aware of your horses internal GPS and their ability to recall places where no rest occurs. An amazing tool to that is one of the foundations of Warwick's training.

THEY NEED TO KNOW THE ANSWER BEFORE YOU ASK THE QUESTION

■ Similar to how we teach children to count before they add, and add before they multiply, because the answer to the current question lies in the previous teaching.

ISOLATE, SEPARATE, RECOMBINE

■ Anytime you are asking a horse to do two or more things at once they need to know them perfectly well separately. When you put them together and it is not working you need to mentally isolate the one that is not working, separate it and correct the issue before recombining them.

ANTICIPATION IS YOUR BEST FRIEND OR YOUR WORST ENEMY

■ Horses are masters at anticipation and knowing when to enhance it and when to suppress it is a key element of training.

CHANGE ONE THING AT A TIME

■ When it's time to add something, make sure you only change one thing a time so you know what works or doesn't work.

WORK WITH THE HORSE YOU HAVE TODAY (ACTUALLY RIGHT THIS MINUTE)

■ No two days are the same, do not work with a horse with any preconceived notions or expectations. Work with the horse that is in front of you right now and do what that horse needs.



DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE TRAVELING THE JOURNEY
TO BEING THE BEST HORSEPEOPLE THEY CAN BE.