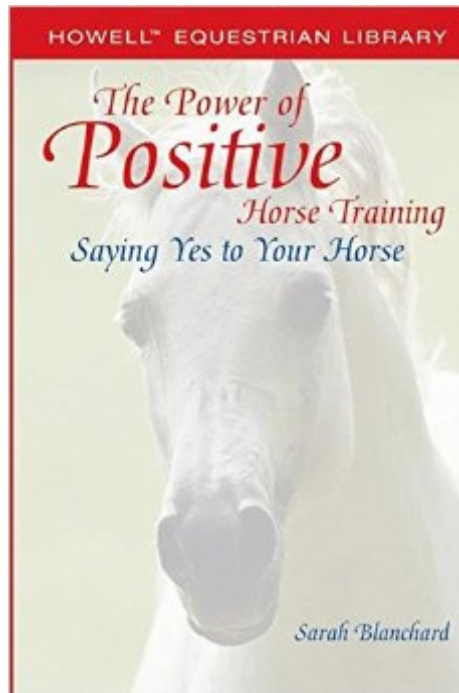


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The Power Of Positive Horse Training: Saying Yes To Your Horse (Howell Equestrian Library)



Synopsis

This book is a welcome addition to the literature in the field of horse training and should be in the library of any serious, caring horseperson.--Gincy Self Bucklin Author of What Your Horse Wants You to Know and How Your Horse Wants You to Ride: Starting Out, Starting Over With unique insight based on years of experience, author Sarah Blanchard describes horse training based on positive motivation and cooperation instead of subservience and domination. The Power of Positive Horse Training: Saying Yes to Your Horse helps you understand your horse's agenda and explains rewards-based training. It goes beyond theory and:

- * Helps trainers and riders create a logical, consistent system of requests, responses, and rewards
- * Teaches communication skills and methods that build respect and a rewarding relationship
- * Describes nine specific, progressive exercises designed to improve communication and cooperation between horse and rider
- * Explains how to use positive training techniques to solve six common behavioral problems

This book helps you forge a bond of understanding and trust with your horse that leads to enhanced responsiveness and teamwork. . . . and make riding a pure joy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What a great book! With so many books available on natural horsemanship, horse behavior and training it's easy to accumulate a whole equestrian library rather quickly. There are really only two books you can't go without though: Gincy Bucklin's What Your Horse Wants You to Know and Sarah

Blanchard's *The Power of Positive Horse Training*. Not only are both books full of great suggestions but more importantly they help bridge the language barrier between horse and human. Wonderful books to own, easy and interesting to read and great reference tools and morale builders when you and your equine partner hit a road block.

I did thoroughly enjoy this book. I have done and read a significant amount of natural training methods so some of the ground work stuff was fairly elementary and sometimes not as 'natural' as I would like - found it to be a little incongruent with the 'positive' and 'saying yes' part of the title. None-the-less the under saddle training suggestions - especially teaching the half halt and circle work - were invaluable and made this book a worthwhile purchase. Like any book it's important to take away what is useful to you and not be too critical of the remainder which may work very well for others.

In my experience, my relationship with horses is much more effective when I think through exercises in order to set them up for success and give them things to do which I can praise them for instead of simply hoping they behave as I want them to. The trouble is that it's easier for me to be reactive than proactive and I'm not terribly creative about finding positive ways to structure their behavior. This book has helped me in three ways - reminding me that in my daily interaction with them I need to look for more ways to say "Yes" than "No", giving me some good overall guidelines for how to structure "training sessions" and supplying some specific exercises to work on problem issues. It's not discipline specific - the exercises can be used for jumpers, hunters, trail, western pleasure or dressage horses - and is very down-to-earth in its tone. Another plus for me is that it doesn't focus on clicker or food-based rewards - food is only recommended as a reward for very specific exercises. I've found it extremely useful and think it would be a good addition to any horseperson's library.

This is a wonderful book for all horse lovers. Ms. Blanchard is a keen observer of horse language and behavior and writes this book with an eye toward truly establishing leadership in your relationship with your horse thru the things that are most important to your horse: security and comfort. The book discusses the horse's needs in comparison to human needs and what this all means in every aspect of your training. It details not only the rewards you should have in your "rewards toolbox" but also the very nature of these rewards and what they mean to your horse. She talks about progressive exercises for you and your horse with the inclusion of the purpose of the

exercise, what rewards are in your toolbox for that exercise, and follows with step-by-step instructions for the exercise. I especially like Chapter 3: Portrait of the Trainer as a Wise Old Mare. That is what we should all strive to become in our work with our horses!

This book took a long time to get to me, but it's not the sender's fault. It came via "book rate" in the USPS to my Air Force base in England. It took 9 weeks! Maybe it took longer because I was eager to get it! It was well packed so was not damaged. Good reading and very informative.

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