

The “Basic Handle” is a coined phrase and training program tried, tested and true by foundation trainers, such as Monte Foreman and now currently Patrick Wyse, of Townsend, Montana – my mentor for the past 25 years.

The Basic Handle is the most humane thing you can teach a horse. The reason is --a trained and respectful horse will be well liked, and therefore well treated by its human.

The Basic Handle begins with very simple maneuvers and slowly builds in complexity, as the horse progresses, therefore, keeping anxiety and stress to a minimum, in both horse and trainer.

There are ten progressive steps to the Basic Handle, which put a solid and safe foundation on the horse. This program also utilizes a multitude of advanced maneuvers and responsiveness exercises. The result is a well-broke horse, ready to specialize in the riding style and/or event that the owner chooses.

The components of the Basic Handle are as follows:

- Natural Depart To The Correct Lead
- Drop To Trot Lead Change
- Natural Flying Lead Change
- Collected Depart and Collected Lead Change
- Balanced Stop
- Rollback
- Inside Roll (out the opposite lead)
- 360 Degree Roll
- Same Lead Rolls
- Spins