

### **WELCOME**

The Ride Smart Club is the best place to better your horse and horsemanship. Follow along with Craig on the journey to enhancing your skills and becoming a better horseman. Be sure to check ridesmartclub.com often for new content and videos.

### LETTER FROM CRAIG

So you want to be a cowboy? I always knew I wanted to be a cowboy. As a kid, I remember watching the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; I knew then that one day I would not only be a ranch cowboy, but also a rodeo cowboy. And now I have fulfilled my childhood dreams. Maybe you have similar asperations and you have the desire to buy a horse, you want to get involved in the horse community. Well, now is the time, what are you waiting for? Achievements are started with dreams and dreams are the substance of achievements. Make time for your dreams and make them come true.

The question I get asked most is, "How and where do I start?" My answer: "At the beginning would be a good place." Like everything in life, a great foundation is necessary to achieve true success. A strong foundation and understanding of the basics is what all great horsemen rely on in their training programs. Don't be shy, ask questions. Go to your local feed stores, western stores, local roping events, and stables. Find out who is reputable in the business and learn from them, watch them ride or take lessons. Search the internet, bookstores, and trade magazines; there is a wealth of information out there. Read up, and then get ready to ride. Practice what you have learned and try it out for yourself. Sign up for your first lesson. Locate a local horse trainer to learn and work with. Find a teacher who will inspire you. Rememer that encouragement is good, but so is constructive criticism. Listen to and learn from your trainer. Do not let yourself get discouraged after a tough lesson or a bad ride. We all have those days. The difficult rides can teach you the most. Replace your negative thoughts with positive and stay mentally tough.

People and horses learn best through repetition. Just like going to the gym, the first time is hard, but if you hang in there and keep working at it soon enough you will see results. Give yourself a couple of months, at the end of those two months, think back on what you learned. You might be surprised at how far you have come.

When you do decide to buy a horse, remember to take your time. Shop around; horsemanship is a relationship so find a horse that fits you. Find an experienced horseman to go with you when you look at horses. Ask your trainer for advice on whether a horse is a good fit for you. Be sure to ask the seller about the horse's history. Use your common sense - in this case, use some good old horse sense. And most importantly give the horse a test ride, whether you feel confident trying the horse out or would rather your trainer mount up, a test ride is always a good idea before buying.

Before bringing your new horse home, be sure you are ready. Have basic equipment on hand, such as a halter and lead rope, as well as feed, hay and clean fresh water. Have a good place to keep your horse. Horses need room to roam and run, they need to be warm in the winter, and cool in the summer. Horses are herd animals and need companionship, so consider keeping your new horse near others. There is a lot that goes along with horse ownership so get to know you local vet, farrier, feed store, and boarding centers; they are invaluable resources.

And last but certainly not least, enjoy the ride. Horse ownership can be life changing. Along with having a new four-legged partner you will become a part of the horse community. I have met some of my closest friends while traveling to clinics, rodeos, expos, etc. Always remember to work on your horsemanship with desire, determination and dedication. When you do, there's no limit to what you can achieve.

Your friend, Craig Cameron

## FEATURED DOUBLE HORN PRODUCT - Single Nose Get Down Rope -

The bosal is crafted with a single nose rope. The nose and knot of the bosal is covered with braided rawhide. A beautifully detailed harness leather hanger holds the bosal. Braided rawhide knots hold the hanger in position on the bosal. The 12 foot lead line, 3/8 inch diameter, has rawhide braided knots at each end of the rope with an 8 inch leather popper on the tie-up end.

The lead is tied around the horse's neck and is caught at the poll by the leather hanger, holding it in position immediately behind the hanger. (If you

tie a proper bowline knot, the rope will tighten upon itself rather than ever tightening on your horses neck.) The lead rope lays just behind the hanger around the horse's neck. The tie-up end is run down through the back of the bosal and is tied off on the saddle or may be tucked under the riders belt.

Ride Smart Club members can now enjoy a special, limited time only discount on this Get Down Rope. Enjoy a 10% discount! Just enter the code "GET10" at checkout. Head on over to <a href="https://ridesmartclub.com/club/perks.htm">https://ridesmartclub.com/club/perks.htm</a> to order yours!



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Sincerely,

# Craig Cameron & the Ride Smart Team Craig Cameron Ride Smart Horsemanship

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