

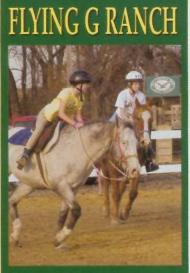
## Stable Thinking

Horses are very sensitive, emotional animals. They easily sense the emotions of the person who is handling them. If someone is angry or upset, the horse will sense this even if the person is angry or upset about something other than the horse.

If you find yourself angry or frustrated while working with your horse, it is best to just walk away until you can approach your horse as your normal cheerful self. Fear is another emotion horses are hyper-sensitive to. If you are riding your horse and become fearful, dismount immediately. I have seen people become fearful because their horse did something unexpected such as stumble. The rider may scream which scares the horse even more and a disastrous cycle

It is best to just dismount calmly, assess the situation, wait for your horse to calm down and mount again when you feel it is safe. Don't worry about looking foolish. It's better to be safe than sorry. Dismount as soon as you or the horse becomes unconfident. You will look far less foolish doing this than if you stay in the saddle trying to ride a bucking bronc all the way!

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When asked who makes a better forensic artist, someone with an art background or without, Suzanne could only answer one way. "I am an artist, but I don't have any observations as a non-artist," she said. "My classes are designed for non-artists who apply themselves to the techniques taught in the classroom just like any other subject."

She grades her students on what they learn, not on their artistic ability. Suzanne also said that later on in life, even if they don't choose a career in the field of forensics, students can certainly apply what they learned in class to many other career fields.



Forensic art ability, as well as any kind of artistic talent, is a gift. Suzanne said if it wasn't a gift, she wouldn't be able to do it. When asked why she uses her artistic talents in the area of forensic art, Suzanne gave a two-fold answer. "It helps loved ones find some kind of closure when an identification is made," she said. "Helping people is one reason I do it. The other reason is because I love art. I've loved it since I was young and my own parents saw to it that I had crayons, paper and clay." She remembers drawing faces at a very young age as she traveled all around with her grandmother, Louise Florey, a longtime welfare worker for Gregg County. Suzanne would sit back, mind her own business and draw the people she saw around her. It was hands-on experience that prepared her for the world of forensic art she thrives on today. AYDIY



