



Frank Bell Horse Whisperer

Hurt Filly Would Not Let Us Treat Her Wounds

Dear Frank:

We have a 5 year old Arabian filly, her name is Blaze. We purchased Blaze from her only other owner that still owns her mother only 4 weeks ago. He had saddled and bridled her but never ridden her and treated her with love and kindness. I was introduced to your video ([A Day In The Life Of A Horse Whisperer](#)) the day we brought her home by a lady (Ann) that claims to be the mother-in-law of your brother?

Anyway, after watching your video, perhaps 8 times, I began working with Blaze and your techniques proved to be nothing less than a miracle for me (as well as Blaze I'm certain). She did wonderful and within the first few days she had seemed to invite me to mount and Blaze and I were out on long, safe, enjoyable rides. She was trusting me and seemed to really enjoy being with me.

However, she was doing lots of pacing the fence by our neighbor's horses when I was not with her and last week she jumped the fence and became caught up at the flank and injured. Not horribly injured but enough that she needed medications to keep out the flies and infection out of the open wounds from the T-post that gouged her several times.

She was not allowing me to touch her wounds for medication; in fact she kicked out at me and squealed when I first tried. Reluctantly, I resorted to spraying them with a squirt bottle of medication from a distance and made a cotton swab attached to a 5' flexible rod to get bag balm on her wounds without me getting hurt.

Her wounds are healing well but her attitude towards me or anyone else that tries to touch her legs has changed drastically. She squeals and kicks out and puts her ears back and tries anything she can to keep us from her front and back legs. It feel like I have really done something wrong to cause this. Plus, prior to the injuries she was allowing me to saddle her very easily, but now she isn't.



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In your video you say, "You only get one chance to make a first impression." I had made a good first impression obviously, but now she seems to really distrust me. What can I do to help her and to get the Blaze back that we had before the injuries?

Also, our neighbor agreed to open a gate to allow Blaze to have pasture buddies and we purchased two orphan yearling colts last week to keep her company but she still wants to jump the fence again when we separate the two pastures and her from the neighbor's horses. She won't accept the colts for pasture buddies. Is there anything to do for this to help her?

And, what could/should have I done different for medicating her when she wouldn't allow it?

Respectfully,
Terry

Dear Terry,

That wound has to sting pretty badly when you treat it, so that's a tough situation that isn't easy to overcome. I think you're doing it OK by the sounds of it. She'll eventually accept the younger pasture mates - you just have to let that happen.

We gentle wild horses with a 12' pole and that might be the answer for re-bonding and touching those sensitive places. See our new "[Pole Gentling The Wild Horse](#)" DVD for an in-depth look at this technique!

Safe riding,