



Stephanie

# Stable Talk

Featuring Stephanie Macejko,  
Breyer's Chief Equine Officer and Horse Expert



## How to Say "Hello" to a Horse!



### 1 Be Trusted

Always remember horses, like reindeer and zebras, are prey animals; *predatory animals attack them.* **Show you are not a predatory animal.** Approach the horse and **prove you are trustworthy and gentle in everything you do.** If the horse seems hesitant or scared, it's best to back away slowly and give her some space.



### 2 Be Seen

With their eyes on the sides of their heads, horses have extra-wide vision, almost all around them. But they do have two blind zones: directly in front and directly behind the horse. If you come from a blind zone, you could startle your horse. **Be in a place where your horse can see you coming!** Approach your new Pal from the front, slightly off-center.



### 3 Be Kind

**Speak in a soft voice, and say hello. Stop at a short distance from the horse, and let her look at you for a few seconds.** Stay as still as possible, not moving your arms. Give your horse the time she needs to feel comfortable around you.



### 4 Be Smelled

As you're approaching the horse, **hold out a hand, palm up, straight ahead and flat, and let her sniff your fingers.** This is important because horses use their sense of smell to determine potential threats. You'll know when your horse is finished sniffing when she puts her head up. Then, you can gently pat her nose.

Always make sure you have adult supervision when you're around horses, and never approach a horse without permission from the owner.

Now it's time to offer a snack! Come back soon and learn the tricks for horse treats!

Love, *Stephanie*



It takes a little time before you can hug me. *But I'm worth the wait!*