

# FROM THE GROUND UP

**COWBOY ENTERPRISES**  
P O BOX 31676  
BILLINGS, MT 59101  
406-245-0734

[www.tjcasey.net](http://www.tjcasey.net)

Everything we do in life is "**From the Ground Up**". If anything worth having is going to last, then we need to learn from the bottom floor to the top floor. "Ya gotta crawl before you walk!" Always!!

Nobody is an overnight success. It takes years of practice and experience, to be the best at anything. So where do we start with horses?

**From the Ground Up** uses cowboy logic or common sense, which ever fits your lifestyle. The first thing that you need to know is, the younger you start 'em, the less work it's gonna be when they grow up, you've already started the bonding or trust phase, that is the most important thing. TRUST. The next most important thing is respect and both you and the horse have to earn that. How do we earn that? By having patience at all times, take your time, go slow, and be safe.

**From the Ground Up** is a tool to help you safely, train your own horse. The



bronco bustin' days are over and we now know there is no reason for that kind of training. There was a purpose for that at one time.

First off the bigger outfits in the west needed cowboys to doctor cattle and take care of the herd, but there weren't always a lot of broke horses, so the big boss would hire a feller to get horses started, so there would always be fresh horses for the cowboys to ride. After the initial breaking, then the cowboys would take over and make a real working cow horse out of them. Breaking was what they did, and though it didn't break the horse per say, (as in having to glue them back together), it did, a lot of times break their spirit. To train a horse you never want to break their spirit, you want to gain their trust and respect and in turn they gain your trust and respect. IT IS A MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP.

## **OWNING A HORSE AND RESPONSIBILITY**

### **THE GROUND WORK**

### **SAFETY**

### **THE BASIC STEPS**

### **CHOOSING YOUR HORSE**

### **NUTRITION**

### **PASTURE MANAGEMENT**

TJ was raised on cattle ranches in the west (Wyoming and Montana) and has a different point of view, than most folks when it comes to horses. Since most of his work was done from the back of a horse. He looks at things quite a bit different than someone who wants a horse for pleasure riding or competition or just kicks and giggles.

"A horse for us was a tool and still is. For a tool to work the way they are suppose to, it must be taken care of properly. Every horse deserves good feed, exercise, training, and the time to be a friend (grooming, foot care, tooth care). There is a lot of responsibility in owning a horse.", says TJ Casey.