Scenario #1

**Problem:** Shane Smith owns a large Clydesdale horse that he wants to drive in his local parades. When he purchased the horse, he was told that it had already been trained to drive a cart. The previous owner did not show Shane that the horse could pull the cart. When he got home, he hooked the horse up to a cart and got in. Instantly, the horse took off with the cart, throwing Shane out of the cart, and breaking his arm.

**What training techniques should Shane have tried before hooking his horse up?**

Ground driving the horse, begin with training tools, ground drive the horse while the horse is hooked to the cart.

**What were the main mistakes Shane made?**

Shane Immediately got into the cart the first time hooking the horse up. He did not have the owner show him that the horse could pull the cart. Ask the owner how the horse liked to be driven. Drove by himself (Unsafe).

**What are ideas Shane could do to get on the right path training his horse how to drive?**

Begin with the basics, start ground driving him then move onto training tools, then ground driving while hooked to the cart. Contact the owner about the horse and its driving history. Begin driving the horse when someone is present (NOT driving alone).



Scenario #2

**Problem:** Olga Middleton is an older woman who wants to give her overweight miniature pony a job for a healthier lifestyle. She cannot ride the pony so she thinks driving will be the best option. The pony has never been driven before, but has been ridden by young children. Olga figures that the pony should be used to having tack on and puts the full harness on the pony. Once tacked, Olga hooks the pony to a training log and urges the pony foreword. The unfamiliar weight, tack, and blinders make the pony spook and become tangled within the tack.

**What training techniques should Olga have tried before hooking her pony up?**

Olga should have put the harness on slowly. She should have begun ground driving the pony before hooking up the pony to a training tool.

**What were the main mistakes Olga made?**

Immediately hooking the pony up to training tools before ground driving the pony. Assuming that the pony will be ok with the new tack.

**What are ideas Olga could do to get on the right path training her pony how to drive?**

Begin from the beginning. Let the pony get used to the tack and begin ground driving. Once the pony has become comfortable with the tack and ground driving begin using the training tools to further training.



Scenario #3

**Problem:** Hilary McDonald is a teenage girl who recently bought a Quarter Horse. She recently learned about driving competitions and wants to train her horse how to drive. Hilary watched a few YouTube videos on how to harness a horse, but finds some of the tack bulky and unnecessary. As a result, she does not attach a breeching or crupper to her horse. Hilary trains her horse, from the beginning, correctly starting slow and working up through the steps. However, because she is not using a crupper or breeching, the cart bumps her horse in the rump. This spooks the horse causing it to take off and injure its leg.

**What training techniques should Hilary have tried before hooking her horse up?**

She should have used all of the tack even if she thinks that it is bulky. She did not properly fit her horse for its harness.

**What were the main mistakes Hilary made?**

She did not properly fit her horse to the harness. Her belief that the necessary tack is bulky caused her horse an injury that could have been prevented.

**What are ideas Hilary could do to get on the right path training her horse how to drive?**

Start from the beginning by tacking her horse up correctly and ground driving. She should restart her training so that her horse can become comfortable with the complete harness.



Scenario #4

**Problem:** John Goode owns a mule that he wants to train how to drive. He begins by introducing him to the harness and ground driving him. Once John feels his mule is ready for a training tool he hooks him up. However, the mule refuses to walk foreword because of the unfamiliarity of the weight. John becomes frustrated and begins smacking the mule with the reins and whipping him with his whip. This spooks the mule causing him to kick John and take off.

**What training techniques should John have tried before hooking his mule up?**

John should have given his mule more time to get used to ground driving and the harness before hooking him to a training tool. He should have chosen a different training tool.

**What were the main mistakes John made?**

John used unnecessary actions to persuade his mule foreword. He should have asked the mule nicely to walk foreword. Losing his temper with the mule was the biggest mistake made. He should have had more patience.

**What are ideas John could do to get on the right path training his mule how to drive?**

John should first start by learning how to control his frustrations when training the mule. He should try and hook the mule up to a lighter training tool such as a PVC pipe. The lessened weight could make the mule more comfortable with pulling the weight.



Scenario #5

**Problem:** Mary Little owns a young hackney horse that she recently spent time training how to drive. Her horse just began pulling Mary in the cart and is still having outbursts of kicking and speed while pulling the cart. However, Mary thinks she can handle these outbreaks. Even though her horse has not become completely comfortable while driving, Mary decides to enter her horse in a competition. During Mary’s pleasure driving competition her horse has an outbreak of kicking and takes off. This results in running another horse into the fence, injuring it and its driver.

**What training techniques should Mary have tried before hooking her horse up?**

Mary should give her horse more time to work in the cart with her in it before entering it in a competition.

**What were the main mistakes Mary made?**

Mary pushed her horse too fast. She should have allowed the horse more time to get more comfortable with driving and having Mary in the cart. Mary should not have assumed she could handle her horses outbreaks or subject others to her horses outbreaks.

**What are ideas Mary could do to get on the right path training her horse how to drive?**

Mary needs to spend more time with her horse in the cart before she enters her horse in anymore competitions.

