

1. Dr. Ricard, Madison. "Clicker Training for Horses: A Beginner's Guide to Positive Reinforcement: Mad Barn." *Mad Barn USA*, 3 Feb. 2026, <madbarn.com/clicker-training-horses/>.
 - This source explains the benefits of using clickers as a method for training horses. I chose this source because it does a good job of explaining a training strategy that uses positive reinforcement. Positive reinforcement is especially helpful for training horses because it connects the fulfillment of an action with a reward, motivating the horse to do what you ask while also keeping the horse engaged and focused on the task at hand. This source is written by Dr. Madison Ricard, who has a PhD in anatomic pathology and researches equines. Because of this, I am confident that this source is reliable. It's clear to me that the information it provides is based in truth since the author is highly educated in this field.
2. Basic Horse Training. "Get Your Horse to Lunge in Minutes NOT Hours" *Youtube*, 23 Sept. 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_dJeFFR8wr8>
 - This source will be important to reference frequently while working with Rakia. Because he is a young thoroughbred that is just being introduced into work, he doesn't have much experience with lunging. This means it's likely for him to be confused about what I'm asking from him when trying to lunge. This video demonstrates lunging on another young horse which is good because it will let me see what types of reactions I could expect when I work with Rakia. Lunging is a good way to exercise a horse without riding, and is beneficial for keeping a horse engaged and focused on its handler. It can also teach a horse respect and improve its willingness to listen to its handler.
3. Tim Anderson Ranch and Horse Training. "Groundwork for a pushy disrespectful horse" *Youtube*, 14 Mar, 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwPvV_DHBRM>
 - This source will help me find ways to correct undesirable behavior from Rakia. Younger horses like Rakia are more likely to be distracted by their surroundings and not tuned into their handler, causing the handler to be pushed around when leading the horse or working with the horse in other ways. This video provides strategies to get a younger or pushy horse to be more present in the moment and to be less focused on outside distractions that could impact the effectiveness of a training session. The video also features a horse that is still improving in some of these areas so it is helpful to watch a realistic portrayal of how the strategies work and how the horse behaves after these strategies were used when compared to their behavior before.
4. Guerin, Georgia. "Groundwork for horses: what is it and why it's useful" *Horse & Hound*, 26 Mar, 2025, <https://www.horseandhound.co.uk/horse-training/groundwork-for-horses-817209>
 - This source explains what groundwork is and why it's important when working with horses, highlighting the importance of the use of positive reinforcement in horse training. It provides insight on how groundwork can help build trust and a connection between a horse and its handler/rider which is essential to the

success and effectiveness of a training session. It also mentions issues that a horse may struggle from that can be improved with groundwork and shows scenarios where it has been helpful in the past. The source also briefly talks about certain groundwork exercises that riders can do with their horses and the benefits of each one.

5. SmartPak. "Ask the Vet - Clicker training for horses" *Youtube*, 13 Feb, 2018, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDpoYA6NcWo>>
 - This source provides a vet's perspective on the benefits of the use of a clicker device in horse training. It also highlights the differences between positive and negative reinforcement training and the impacts each can have on a horse. The video explains the importance of understanding that the clicker is not to be used as a cue, but instead a marker paired with a reward to signal to the horse when they have performed a desired action, motivating them to continue doing said action after hearing a certain command. It causes the horse to seek out the desired actions which will lead to quicker and more accurate results.
6. Connection Training. "How to Start Clicker Training Your Horse Part 1: Relaxation and the Marker Signal" *Youtube*, 1 Dec, 2018, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAtdyVW0xsk>>
 - This source acts as a tutorial/starting point for riders that want to start using clicker training when working with their horses. It mentions the benefits of clicker training and how it can improve the bond between a rider and their horse. The video shows techniques on how a clicker should be used, how to time the click with the desired action as well as the reward, and what an end result might look like after the rider and the horse are both familiar with and more comfortable with the process. It demonstrates all of these things on a horse that understands the clicker training process which helps show how clicker training should ideally look.
7. Thomas, Heather Smith. "Storey's Guide to Training Horses: Groundwork, Driving, Riding" 2010.
 - This source provides a series of horse training exercises that are tailored to the needs of different horses and are broken down to consider different factors like a horse's age, experience, and temperament. These exercises can be used by riders regardless of what plans and end goals they have for a horse's training from farm work to competitive riding. The book also highlights the importance of understanding equine behavior by examining a horse's body language. It's essentially a starter guide to working with horses, so it will act as a very useful tool for more considering horse training is still something new that I'm getting into.
8. Haley, Neale. "Training Your Horse to Show" 1976.
 - This source will provide helpful tips and information on horse training for people that have the goal of competitive riding. Because my final capstone event will be to ride Rakia in Northwestern Stables' annual spring horse show, this book will be a really good resource for me to consult when I have questions about the more competition centered aspects of the training I'll do. The book goes over the judging and scoring aspect of horse showing which will be helpful for me to refer

back to in order to know what specific things I can turn my focus to working on with Rakia in order to get him in the best position I can for the spring horse show in May.

9. Littauer, Vladimir. S. "Schooling Your Horse: A Simple Up-to-Date Method of Schooling Hunters, Jumpers, and Hacks" 1956.
 - This source includes useful information about schooling horses and training done under saddle. It gives riding advice for several different disciplines so I'm sure to be able to find something helpful for me and Rakia. It also includes information formatted in both words and pictures to give an easier to understand explanation of certain techniques and concepts. The book also highlights that it is meant for an "average rider" and everything taught in it can be achieved on an "average horse" which is very useful for me to keep in mind because of the fact that Rakia is a younger horse with minimal training. Knowing this, I am more confident that I'll actually be able to apply the tips listed in the book.
10. Littauer, Vladimir. S. "Be a Better Horseman; An Illustrated Guide to the Enjoyment of Modern Riding" 1941
 - This source provides insight on how a rider or horse handler can improve their horsemanship skills on the ground and under saddle to form a stronger connection with the horses they work with. It highlights the importance of a rider's posture/position under saddle and how good riding posture and balance will improve overall performance and control. The book instructs the reader on how to maintain proper position on the horse and how it can engage the horse, causing it to respond better to riding cues and aids. This will be a helpful source for me to reference because it not only has information about training the horse but also information on how I can improve as the rider to have more effective training sessions.