

To Whom It May Concern:

I have a five-year-old Paint gelding who was pasture-bred and raised and only brought in for handling one month before I bought him. In the two years since purchase, I have played with him doing some ground work and riding him only twice during that time with an English saddle and a bosal. When Scooter was turning five I realized he was getting a little old to be so green, but as I am a fluffy, 57-year-old grandmother often who does not bounce so well any more, the initial breaking was beyond me.

I normally visit a friend in Virginia, another horse-lover, who told me to bring Scooter with me when I came for my visit; she knew the perfect trainer for him Shayan Richet. My friend did not oversell Mr. Richet. I did not expect Shayan to train my horse to lope on command, but to basically get the buck out so I was less likely to be hurt when I returned home.

Working with my limited time and money, Shayan accomplished the basic and so much more. In the two weeks Shayan had with Scooter (approximately an hour a day, five days a week). Scooter was not just green broke! Scooter learned to set his head and to use his hindquarters resulting in his ability to perform beautiful maneuvers and gaits. Scooter is consistent with basic lateral work, turn on the haunch, the collected jog and canter, the correct halt and so much more. I saw Shayan ride a consistent canter in a circle without reins, stop Scooter without reins, and BACK Scooter without reins. He learned his leads and stayed calm throughout training including handling some trail obstacles.

Before the horse left training, Shayan included some riding lessons for me which increased my confidence with the colt tremendously. It had been more than five years since I had last cantered a horse.

I cannot recommend Shayan more highly. He truly cares about the horses with which he works, is humane in their training, and produces a very high quality product at a reasonable price. While staying with my friend, I had the opportunity to see Shayan training at least three other horses, all with the same outstanding results.

With my sincerest appreciation,

Shayan showing me Scooter without touching the reins..

Mina Dirksen

