

Bridges/Obstacles



Refusing To Cross Bridges Chris & Kelli French Rafter CF Training Mule Co

A lot of the same techniques are used in teaching a mule to cross a bridge as is used to load in the trailer or cross an obstacle. If the mule refuses to cross a bridge, the first thing you should do is ask him to cross something that's level with the ground. A piece of plywood placed along a solid fence or wall works best. Begin to lunge the mule to both the left and right without asking him to cross the plywood. After he is comfortable with the exercise, start to move towards the plywood, asking him to lunge nearer to the board. When he gets comfortable being that close to the plywood, continue to lunge him then step



Chris French demonstrates how to prepare a mule to cross obstacles such as a bridge.

towards the plywood, directing him to cross the plywood between your body and the fence. If the mule refuses to move forward across the plywood, twirl your rope or tap him on the hindquarters using your stick with a steady rhythmic beat until he moves forward. Always reward positive progress.