

# EMA

Equine Massage Academy Ltd

*Therapy Education Research*

## Good Breeding Isn't Enough—Here's What Really Makes the Difference



When we think about breeding horses—whether it's a broodmare, the foal, stallion, or youngstock—the focus is often on:

- Bloodlines
- Conformation
- Fertility
- The outcome we hope to produce

But what about the *horse in front of you right now?*

## The Missing Piece

The biggest assumption in breeding is:

👉 “If the breeding is good, the rest will follow.”

But breeding alone doesn't guarantee:

- A healthy pregnancy
- A well-developed foal
- A sound future athlete
- A calm, well-adjusted young horse

Because what happens **during and after breeding** matters just as much as genetics.

### What Owners and Breeders Often Overlook

- The physical comfort of the broodmare
- The impact of stress on fertility and development
- Early handling, weaning and its long-term effects of the foal
- How the stallion is managed physically and mentally
- The developmental stages of the foal into a youngster
- The developmental stages of youngster into a horse

These aren't small details.

👉 They shape the horse's entire future.

### What Actually Matters?

#### 1. The Broodmare Is Not Just a “Carrier”

Her health and wellbeing influence:

- Foal development in utero
- Birth outcomes
- Behaviour and temperament of the foal
- Longer term care of the broodmare post-partum

Stress, discomfort, and poor management can all have lasting effects.

## 2. The First Months Shape the Future

Foals are developing rapidly—physically and mentally.

Early life influences:

- Movement patterns
- Strength and coordination
- Behaviour and confidence
- Long-term soundness

👉 You're not just raising a foal—you're shaping an adult horse.

## 3. Youngstock: Getting It Right Early

Young horses are developing every day—not just growing.

Correct development supports:

- Strength
- Coordination
- Sound movement and future career

Poor development can lead to long-term issues that are much harder to correct later.

👉 What you do early on matters more than most people realise.

## 3. The Stallion Is More Than Genetics

A stallion's:

- Physical condition
- Stress levels
- Handling and management

All play a role in:

- Fertility
- Behaviour
- Safety
- Overall success of breeding programmes

### ⚠️ The Risk of Getting It Wrong

If these stages aren't managed well, you may see:

- Developmental issues
- Behavioural problems
- Reduced performance potential
- Increased veterinary costs
- Long-term welfare concerns

## **A Smarter Approach**

Instead of asking:

👉 “Is this horse well bred?”

Ask:

👉 “Am I managing this horse in a way that supports its full potential?”

## **Where You Come In**

Whether you have:

- A broodmare
- A stallion
- A foal or young horse

You are in a position to influence:

- Development
- Behaviour
- Comfort
- Future performance

Every single day.

## **Want to Give Any Horse in the Breeding Process The Best Possible Start?**

Inside our **Manual Therapies for Broodmares, Foals, Youngsters and Stallions** course [LINK](#)

you'll learn not only how to provide manual therapies to help them but:

- How to support broodmares before, during, and after pregnancy
- Key considerations for stallion management and wellbeing
- What foals need for correct physical and behavioural development
- How early decisions influence long-term outcomes
- How to avoid common (and costly) mistakes

And much more – the course includes lots of video footage and a comprehensive course manual.

Because breeding a horse isn't just about producing a horse...

👉 It's about **developing one properly from the very beginning**

## **Give Any Horse involved in Breeding the Best Chance Possible!**

Our courses are approved by:

