



ERIC SMILEY is a former international event rider. He represented Ireland at European, World, and Olympic level, winning team bronze medals on two occasions. Smiley was also a regular competitor at Badminton Horse Trials and Burghley Horse Trials. He continues to be a prolific producer of successful event horses at all levels.

Smiley began his equestrian career in the Pony Club and continued it in the army. He then enjoyed a spell at the world-renowned Tolland Equestrian Center, during which time he gained his British Horse Society Instructor's certificate. In 1995 Smiley passed his British Horse Society Fellowship exam, the highest teaching qualification in the industry. Smiley coached the Belgian Eventing Team during the 2011 European Eventing Championships and 2012 London Olympics. He is an FEI judge who regularly acts as a Ground Jury member. This is his second book.

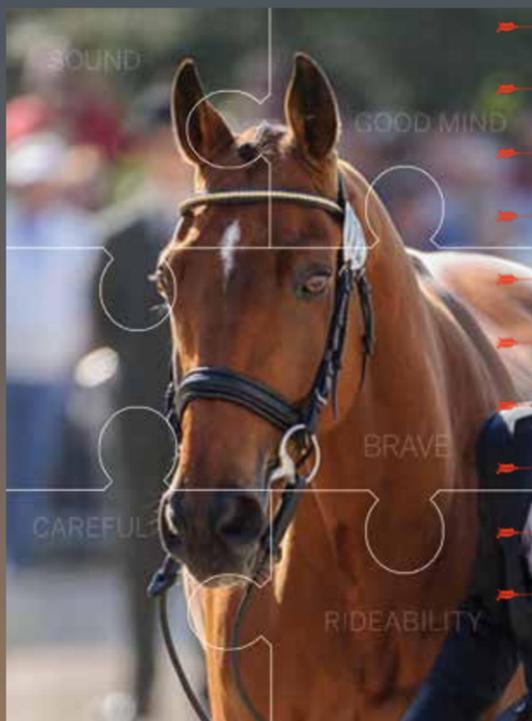
ELLIE HUGHES is former Deputy Editor of *Eventing* magazine. She is now a freelance journalist who has written for numerous leading equestrian and country lifestyle titles, including *Horse & Hound*, *Horse*, and *Country Life*. She compiles *Horse & Hound's* popular novice eventing pages every week and has produced a wide range of training articles with household names, such as Lucinda Green, Pippa and William Funnell, and Captain Mark Phillips. Hughes is a keen rider and a previous winner of the Pony Club National Eventing Championship. She has competed up to CCI2* and Advanced level in eventing and recently trained her former eventer to win up to Small Tour level in dressage. This is her first book.

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RIDING WELL CAN BE A PUZZLE THIS BOOK PUTS TOGETHER THE PIECES



- How humans and horses learn.
- Striving for partnership vs. dictatorship.
- Early training and developing skills.
- Demystifying equestrian-speak.
- Dressage outside the arena.
- Groundpoles for the rest of us.
- Jumping and cross-country tips.
- Solving problems, wherever you ride.
- Competition psychology.
- Being coached and being a coach.

“It is a truism to say that the best coaches are those who are themselves great students. For the 40 years I have been his supporter and colleague, Eric Smiley has always been a great student. Always listening, always questioning, always thoughtful, he never rests on his laurels but continually looks for new challenges and better ideas. This attitude, combined with his wide experience, gives his words special value.”

WILLIAM MICKLEM

Equestrian Consultant, Writer, Creator of the Micklem Bridle

“Eric Smiley is one of the few in the equestrian world who has gone from being a top international rider to a top international trainer and coach. He has a great technical knowledge that he combines with a well-thought-through ideology and philosophy. Eric is a naturally good horseman who has a common-sense approach to not just coaching the horse and rider, but also to solving problems where they occur. It's therefore no surprise to me that Eric has given his book the title *Two Brains, One Aim*, and it's a must read for not just coaches but also for riders on all levels.”

YOGI BREISNER

Advisor, Swedish Equestrian Federation, Former Performance Manager and Chef d'Equipe, British Eventing Team

TWO BRAINS ONE AIM

ERIC SMILEY, FBHS
WITH ELLIE HUGHES

TWO BRAINS ONE AIM

A Riding Coach's
**Key Concepts for Bringing
 Horse and Rider Together**
 (and Ending in Success!)



ERIC SMILEY, FBHS

WITH ELLIE HUGHES

EVERY HORSE PERSON strives to grow in ability and understanding over time—whether in the saddle, on the ground, or in the barn, whether in ways that are small or those that are significant. This effort, when done right, lasts a lifetime, and along the way requires the addition of knowledge and experience gleaned from numerous others.

Where does one find leadership within the equine industry? Does riding require an instructor, a trainer, a coach? Can you get by with part-time guidance? Can you effectively learn on your own, with just the occasional directive, and still find personal or competitive success? With this book, renowned clinician and international team coach Eric Smiley intends to fill the gap when it comes to these questions and others, providing a reliable resource and educational companion for the aspiring equestrian.

Smiley addresses fundamental topics pertinent to riders, with philosophical discussion and practical exercises applicable to all levels. Along the way he strives to educate readers on being taught, and perhaps, one day, becoming the teachers. His aim is to bring together the mind of the rider with the mind of the horse, while highlighting the key component in their synergy: understanding. It is how that understanding is acquired, retained, and put to use that is the key to success.

“This book is aimed at riders, coaches, and anyone interested in learning more about how humans and horses interact. I have tried to harness my own experiences when I cover the three main disciplines—dressage, show jumping, and eventing—and how they relate to one another. I look at how those in a coaching position can guide riders to perform better by making their lives less complicated and more fulfilling, and I examine how riders can apply the same principles to training their horses and become self-sufficient.”

ERIC SMILEY

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