

The Five Pure Temperaments

From *Horse Harmony*, By Madalyn Ward, D.V.M.

| Type | Motto | Typical Traits | Patterns When Out of Balance | Personality Summary |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| FIRE | <i>"Look at me!"</i> | Friendly, affectionate, eager to please, pretty, fine-boned, sensitive | Anxious, over-reactive, nervous | For a sensitive owner <i>The perfect show horse</i> |
| EARTH | <i>"Let's be a team!"</i> | Easy-going, willing, great with kids, easy-keeper, stocky build | Lazy, grouchy, apathetic | Loves children <i>The Dependable lesson horse</i> |
| METAL | <i>"What's my job?"</i> | Hard-working, consistent, dependable, tough, aloof | Rigid, shut-down, unresponsive | Hard-working and self-contained <i>The hard-working ranch horse</i> |
| WATER | <i>"Can I trust you?"</i> | Highly sensitive, strong-willed, athletic | Fearful, needy, physically weak | Best with a confident owner <i>The animated park horse</i> |
| WOOD | <i>"I will win!"</i> | Strong-willed, competitive, athletic, powerful | Pushy and aggressive OR apathetic and depressed | Firm, consistent handling required <i>The ultimate competitor</i> |

The Six Combination Temperaments
From *Horse Harmony*, By Madalyn Ward, D.V.M.

| Type | Motto | Typical Traits | Patterns When Out of Balance | Personality Summary |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Fire/Wood | <i>"Let's get going!"</i> | High self-esteem, bold and assertive, supreme competitor | Assertive, strong-willed, inconsistent OR unsure, timid, emotionally unstable, easily depressed | Definitely not for children or beginners <i>The talented but excitable racehorse</i> |
| Wood/Fire | <i>"Don't drop your guard!"</i> | Friendly, good sense of humor, capable of hard work, unpredictable | Unwilling, pushy, dull OR overly emotional, anxious, depressed, timid | Very mercurial <i>The trick (and tricky) horse</i> |
| Water/Fire | <i>"You can't wear me out!"</i> | High energy, courageous, tireless, talented, tall, long narrow necks, generally hearty, proud but not vain | Suspicious of new people, emotional when afraid, anxious, overly tense | Needs a very experienced rider <i>The endurance trail horse</i> |
| Fire/Water | <i>"Let's have fun!"</i> | Very affectionate, fun to be around, intellectual, sociable, likes to figure things out, loves attention, uncomplaining | Anxious and fearful when overstressed, prone to Cushing's and metabolic imbalances | A good kid's horse <i>The Western Pleasure Horse</i> |
| Metal/Earth | <i>"Be fair to me."</i> | Hard-worker but not ambitious, high standards, gets the job done, likes consistency and fairness, loyal and generally easy to get along with but not a best friend type personality | Can refuse to work when unhappy, digestive problems, arthritis, hard-keeper | Good horse for beginners <i>The exceptionally willing and versatile performer</i> |
| Earth/Metal | <i>"When the going gets tough, I'm your horse!"</i> | Similar to Metal/Earth but more hearty, consistent hard-worker, easy keeper, likes regularity, smart, high pain threshold, sweet tooth | Stiff, resistant, worried, frustrated, depressed | Often a one-person horse <i>The consistent, hard-working horse</i> |