



# Loading Your Horse Can Be Dangerous



## OVERVIEW

One of the most dangerous moments for both you and your horse is during the loading process. These are high stress moments in a small, enclosed space that can lead to drastic injuries for both you and your horse. In these moments, there are an infinite number of ways that your horse could hurt either you or himself.

You can train your horse to load calmly and confidently, but something unexpected could happen at any moment. And sometimes, your trailer is hurting rather than helping. Read on to learn how Double D Trailers used an accident as a catalyst to improve their product.

## CHALLENGE

In 1999, a horse owner from Raleigh, North Carolina was loading her horse into her conventional slant load trailer just like she had done so many times before. Her young gelding was usually reliable and calm and had never had any loading issues in the past. She walked her horse onto the narrow entryway past the rear tack compartment and into his stall. But, since the space was so confined, she walked around to the side of the trailer to reach in and fasten her horse's halter. Suddenly, without any warning-and without any reaction time-the horse reared back and snapped her arm. Instead of a drive to the nearby countryside for a weekend ride, the horse owner was rushed to the emergency room

## SOLUTION

Brad Heath, owner of Double D Trailers, heard about the accident and knew there had to be a safer way to load a horse onto a trailer. Double D started brainstorming possible solutions. They came up with a design that would eliminate the dangers of loading-and make both the unloading and loading processes much easier and much more comfortable for both horses and their owners.

Their design was trademarked as "SafeTack" in 2011 and is now available on both bumper pull and gooseneck horse trailers from Double D Trailers. What makes it so special is that it has a full, wide loading area and a rear tack storage area. With this design, the rear tack storage area doesn't get in the way at all. In fact, it swings out to the side when you open the back trailer doors, allowing a wide-open area for your horse to pass. As well, double-hinged dividers in the interior of the trailer allow the horses to easily move through the trailer to exit without awkward backing and maneuvering. This unique design also gives horse owners enough tack storage area for all their tack needs as well.

Brad said, "Horses are unpredictable animals. That's why you always want as much space as possible just in case you need to get the heck out of the way." The SafeTack design gives you and your horse the maximum amount of space-making your Double D Trailer much safer than traditional trailers



**SafeTack Trailer Design**