

bill maher q & a /1/

Best thing about being single: You get to date a lot of women. I can't **imagine not being** free and **having someone argue** with my decisions. If anyone **nags** me, I say, "Hey, if I wanted **to be nagged**, I'd **get married**." That **pretty much** ends that discussion.

Morning routine: I **haven't seen** the morning since 1968. I **don't go to bed until** four or five and I sleep **for at least** nine hours every day. Some people **look down on** those who **sleep in** or get up late, but there are successful **late risers** like the Russian president Putin.

Always in the fridge: Herbs. Anything that **goes wrong with** the body I can **fix with** herbs.

Evening routine: **That's when** I work. I go to the office and have meetings between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Then I go home, exercise, **bathe** and work until 2 in the morning.

Procrastination technique: I make **piles** of things and then move the piles, **as if** that's **addressing the problem**. If I **put** a pile on the desk, that's supposed to mean "urgent," but **more often than not** it sits there for weeks.

Taking work home: I'm **actually** much funnier offstage than onstage. You are never **as** free onstage as you are with friends **at dinner**.

What's always with him: A briefcase. It has my wallet, my car keys, my **lip balm**, **small change**, **Kleenex**, a comb, sunglasses, papers and pens.

What he wanted to be when he was 5: 6. I **was never meant to be** a child. I'm a **control freak**, and children have no control **over things**. I was **scared** all the time. But I was **pretty sure** I wanted to be a comedian **by** the age of 10.

Workout routine: I run **up** a hill **in the back of** my house. I jump on a trampoline, **which** is good for the lymph nodes. I play basketball and **use** the gym. **The whole thing takes** less than an hour.

Bathing routine: This house has a great big sunken tub, **the kind I always pictured Joan Collins in**. I never thought I'd be the kind of person who **luxuriates** in the tub. But I don't **consider** a day complete **until I've spent** thirty minutes in hot water.

Favorite item in house: The German bayonet my mother **brought** back from World War II. I **keep** it on a table in my office. When I was little I **was fascinated by** it, and Mom said I could **have** it **when I was** 13. I **remember thinking**, I'll never be 13.