

The New Way to Date: 5 Simple Steps you Must Follow to Have Dating Bliss

by

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Why do so many people hate dating? Why do they cringe at the idea of meeting someone and having to talk about themselves? Why are they afraid to approach someone they really find attractive and want to meet? I thought everyone shared the same growth and experiences I had as a touring comedian. When I realized that wasn't the case—that most people are clueless when it comes to dating and meeting the opposite sex—I wrote *God Is a Woman: Dating Disasters* to share my stories. In these stories, I re-live the hilarious misadventures I had with women, starting as “Sweetest Guy” in high school (yeah, I was voted Sweetest Guy of my class; might as well not have a penis when they pin that award on you) and winding up as a good guy, after going through all the male phases—nice guy, player, bad boy, jerk, even asshole, and all the rest.

I love dating. I have lots of fun and enjoy getting to know someone. Even more, I enjoy the excitement of not knowing where things are going to go; will we date? Is she the one? We will just have wild sex? Or will the night be a total flop? I like the idea that every new relationship could be the last, permanent one in my life.

What sets me apart? Why do so few others share my enthusiasm? I have never followed the rules that most people accept without question when it comes to dating. Wait five days before calling a woman you've met, in order to build mystery and interest. Never return a guy's first call. Your first date should be short, no longer than thirty minutes. Date in your league. Blah blah blah. These rules are stupid. That's right; S-T-U-P-I-D.

The core idea of successful dating is to stand out from the crowd. Traditional concepts teach us to do this by building interest. You build interest by playing games—wait five days to call, don't return his call right away, and so forth. That's the old way to date; I invented a new way years ago without even realizing it. Instead of building interest as your MO, build momentum. (Actually, building interest is built-in to building momentum. Using these steps, you'll also build interest as part of the momentum but you won't have to practice crazy concepts to do it.)

Dating is about building momentum. (Most people fail to realize this because they are too busy trying to build and maintain interest... for the other person in them, which you can't even really do, effectively; however, you can build momentum without worrying about trying to get the other person to get more and more interested in you—i.e. trying to control them.) The dating rules (where the hell did these things come from, any way?) serve only to impede momentum. At every turn they require that you break the flow of fun, exceptionally effective dating practices. I want to share with you the five simple steps I practice which make me a very happy, effective dater. Both men and women can adopt these steps. In fact, if you want to enjoy dating bliss, you must practice these steps.

Why would I reveal the steps for free? One reason: I want to help. It's in my nature to see everybody happy. That's why I wrote the book, why I was a standup comedian, and why I was a musician since age ten. It's why I organize dozens of sports teams and leagues for people to play in, as well as coordinate neighborhood dinners among my friends and acquaintances.

Of course, if you like my new way of dating and find it useful, I hope you'll pick up a copy of *God Is a Woman: Dating Disasters* and spread the word. It goes into far more detail and shares the actual stories where I developed my dating habits, sculpted from the lessons I learned. The stories are very funny (mostly at my own expense, unfortunately) and quite insightful. Unlike self-help books that feed you a bunch of concepts—like waiting five days before calling a woman you met—without any reason behind their rationale, you can see clearly and precisely how I came to my conclusions and implement them for success.

I want to be clear that I did not come up with these strategies as though I was writing math equations. Rather, to help you out by given you specifics, I had to pay great attention to how I meet and date as I did it, in order to provide the information. I never really thought about it before *God*. I still don't think about it while I'm doing any of it; these steps are simply who I am and how I behave. They are natural to me now, although they weren't back in high school and college.

All right, let's get on with the five steps, shall we? Each gender has a role to play in each step. I will use the woman I'm currently dating as an example to illustrate each step, as I am a firm believer in real-life examples. We'll call her "Nancy."

1. Meeting Someone.

Guys: Never ask a woman for her number or if you can call. Instead, ask her out to something specifically related to the conversation. This shows you are paying attention, makes you stand out from other guys she's met (i.e. makes you memorable), and practically guarantees she will return your call after you contact her. You're not after a phone number; you're after a return call. How many times have you called a woman who gave you her number and left her a message, only to never hear from her? The goal is to get a return call, not a number. All the speals out there in the huge world of dating advice tell you how to get a woman's number, often requiring you ask for it within a few minutes of meeting her. So what? You got a number. Big deal. Getting digits means squat. Notice none of the advice tells you how to get her to call you back or

how to greatly increase the odds she will return your call. By inviting a woman to something specific, you nearly guarantee a return call. She will feel obligated by social norms to call you back to renege, if she decides she doesn't want to go out with you after all. (Friends could talk her out of it, who knows? There are a lot of factors.) When she returns your call, that's your chance to reconnect; and that reconnection often leads to a date.

I met Nancy at a bar. I discovered that she lived in a suburb of Chicago which is home to a great Greek restaurant. After speaking with her for roughly twenty minutes, I brought up the restaurant. "What's that Greek restaurant on the corner of 1st and Miller, I think?"

"Oh, I can't remember. I know what you're talking about, though. It's really good."

"Yeah, it is. I haven't been there in ages. Whaddya say we go there sometime in the next week or two?"

"Let me think about it."

"Sure, no prob."

We spoke for another ten minutes or so and then it was time for me and my friends to head out. "It was nice meeting you, Nancy."

"Yeah, you, too. I'll go to the Greek place with you."

"Okay. What's your number? I'll get back to you after I check my schedule."

"Actually, why don't you give me your number?"

I gave her my digits and email, then headed out with my friends. She emailed me a week later and we set a date.

Women: You're on the opposite end of the fence. I know guys sometimes get your number then never call. WTF, eh? Believe it or not, the number one reason guys don't call is fear. They felt like you weren't really that interested and they don't want to deal with the anticipated rejection. Rather than end on a sour note, they view getting your number as a victory. They'd rather have that victory than experience rejection. So, they never call. What can you do? If you want to be sure a guy calls, let him know he'll be successful. Write your number on a piece of paper (which is also safer than saying it aloud in a crowded place—I've had women tell me other guys who overheard the number called them) and fold it. Smile and squeeze his hand momentarily as you hand him the paper. This lets him know he is going to be successful and will remove any doubt.

2. Set the Tone.

Guys: Your job is to set the tone of the date. This is where the momentum starts. You do so by being prepared. Make reservations. Know where you're going to park. Don't do anything that breaks the flow of the date, which would establish a negative tone. For example, don't stop at a cash station after picking up your date; do it beforehand. When I went out with Nancy, I made sure we had reservations and that there wasn't a big event going on at the restaurant which might ruin the date (like a meeting of the local drunken lodge).

Women: Your job is to maintain the tone of the date. Keep the momentum flowing by not breaking it. Turn off your cell. Don't ask annoying, pointless questions like, "So, how come you're still single?" (It's awkward, breaks the flow, and the answer is always going to be, "I just haven't met the right person;" unless you ask me, in which case the answer is more likely to be, "All my girlfriends keep dying." I'll totally mess with you when you ask dumb questions.)

3. Stay Confident.

Guys: Remain confident. Don't ask questions like, "Are you having a good time?" or make comments like, "Wow, you probably get asked out a lot. I can't believe you're here with me." Pay attention to her actions and what she says. Respond appropriately. Non-confident guys worry too much about what to say next. The result? They miss most of what their date says, which comes off as rude, uninterested, and non-confident. Confidence is the number one trait women seek in men.

Women: Remain confident. No, "Why did you ask me out?" You come off looking like you are fishing for compliments and that's non-confident, which is unappealing to us, too. Help the guy with his confidence by vocalizing your thoughts. "I'm having fun;" "This restaurant was a good choice."

4. The Kiss.

Notice I didn't write "The Goodnight Kiss." This is one of the dumbest rules and topics I've heard discussed in dating. It's written about constantly. *Should you kiss on the first date? Why you shouldn't kiss on the first date. How to know she wants you to kiss her at the end of the date. Why you shouldn't kiss a woman on the first date.* I've seen it all discussed and belabored. And all of it's wrong.

A kiss is something that comes from the moment. It can be hot and sexy, soft and sweet, and everything in-between. There is far too much emphasis placed on the first kiss. This serves only to make the date stressful and by the end of the date, there is nothing but tension. Should you try to kiss her? Will he make a move? Just because the date is at the end doesn't guarantee the moment is right for a kiss. It could be totally wrong. She might get puddle splashed while getting out of a cab or trip on her heels and cut her lip. Hardly the right time for a kiss. Most likely, though, you've passed too many right times for a kiss and that has killed it for the end of the date.

Guys: Kiss in the moment. If you feel it and sense she does, too, go for it.

Women: When he makes his move, if you're into it, let the kiss happen. If he's misread you, simply offer him your cheek. If it's just not your thing, you can always add, "I don't kiss on the first date but thank you." This lets him know things are still good. (I know a lot of you say you don't kiss on the first date. How do I know? Because I've had plenty of women tell me that on a first date... after we've kissed several times. Truth is you've been dreaming of getting kissed in the moment since you were a girl and heard fairytales for the first time. And the end of the date is not that moment.)

On my first date with Nancy, we had a few lulls during the conversation at dinner in which we caught each other's eyes, then smiled and looked away. When it happened a fourth time, I felt confident and held her gaze as we smiled. I then leaned over the

table toward her will beckoning her with my forefinger. "What?" she asked as she leaned toward me. I kissed her. "That," I replied. By the end of the date, kissing was not a problem at all and a strong romantic tone had been set.

5. Set the Next Date While on the Current Date.

Guys: If you're both having a lot of fun and you're more than midway through the date, ask her out for the next date. Make it specific, if possible. Fish first to see if she's interested, if you prefer.

Women: If you're having fun and like him, accept or tell him you have to check your schedule. If he's fishing, give him a bite. If he's not asking, suggest something. "I'd really like to go to that new restaurant. Have you been? We should maybe go." If he's misread you or you're not sure, tell him you have to check your schedule or accept and cancel by phone or email, later.

Now neither of you has to concern yourself with the date follow-up. Guys, how long should you wait to call? A day? Two? Five? You don't want appear too eager but you don't want to wait too long, either. Ooh. What to do... Women, will he call? Why hasn't he? It's been three days... four... five... Should you call him? Eliminate the anxieties created by these uncertainties by scrapping the rules.

On my first date with Nancy, I could see we were both having a lot of fun and we had kissed several times. Time to ask her out for the next date. "Have you ever been to movies in the park?" (I was fishing.)

"No, but I've heard they're a lot of fun and I've always wanted to go." (She just bit.)

"Why don't we go Tuesday? It's the last one, *Grease*, and it should be a lot of fun."

"Okay, sounds like fun."

Do you get it? In two weeks I went out with Nancy five times by following this simple strategy and then, poof, we were dating. I only had to follow step five for the first four dates. In so doing, I removed all games from the picture. She never had to wonder if I was going to call and I never had to worry about when to call. We didn't have to worry about phone conversations because we were seeing each other frequently enough to where they weren't needed. The first kiss was in the moment and thus non-stressful and natural. In short, we created a momentum and now we're dating. You need momentum to date and these steps create momentum.

What kind of advice do you get in *God*? Tons. How do you circumvent the bitter friend who cock blocks? (Nancy had one and I had to get around her.) Why shouldn't you date your friends, ladies? How do you flirt? What does "be mysterious to women" really mean and why does it work? And lots more. It's all in *God*, along with very funny stories. If you're a guy, you'll relate and you'll save yourself a lot of pain by following the advice. If you're a woman, you'll laugh at a guy (me) making a fool of himself, as well as save yourself a lot of pain, too, not to mention seeing the role you play in creating jerks, players, and bad boys. (It's easy to see how women helped forge me into a real creep for a while, without me even realizing it.)

If you liked this advice and my approach, you'll like and find a lot of valuable information in *God*. You can get it wherever books are sold or order a copy [here](#). Ladies, don't forget to read my weekly Lifetime column and send in questions, as well as leave comments, [by clicking here](#). You can also find links to all my dating and relationship columns (I currently write three—for Lifetime, The Bachelor Guy, and Double Viking) at www.lunchisnotadate.com.

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