

Alton Brown Quotes

*People, Thinking, Cooking, Kitchen, Turkeys, Real, Mean, Believe, Giving,
Years, Jobs, Needs, Hate, Way, Skins, Home, Writing, Fun, Mother, Doe*

I love to have battles of the wits with people that can dish fast and dirty - and it leads to problems occasionally, 'cause I can sound mean without attempting to be mean.

~Alton Brown

Culinary tradition is not always based on fact. Sometimes it's based on history, on habits that come out of a time when kitchens were fueled by charcoal.

~Alton Brown

Slicing a warm slab of bacon is a lot like giving a ferret a shave. No matter how careful you are, somebody's going to get hurt.

~Alton Brown

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a cash advance.

~Alton Brown

My college degree was in theater. But the real reason, if I have any success in that milieu, so to speak, is because I spent a lot of years directing, I spent a lot of years behind the camera

~Alton Brown

So on one hand, honey is an amazingly sophisticated and efficient food source. On the other hand, it's bee backwash.

~Alton Brown

Cooking is an observation-based process that you can't do if you're so completely focused on a recipe.

~Alton Brown

Laughing brains are more absorbent.

~Alton Brown

I had kicked around the idea for Good Eats when I was directing

commercials.

~Alton Brown

The stubby French painter Toulouse-Lautrec supposedly invented chocolate mousse - I find that rather hard to believe, but there you have it.

~Alton Brown

A lot of food shows need only to tempt. Some food shows only need to inspire, to empower. And there are a lot of shows that do that.

~Alton Brown

A home cook who relies too much on a recipe is sort of like a pilot who reads the plane's instruction manual while flying.

~Alton Brown

Everything in food is science. The only subjective part is when you eat it.

~Alton Brown

If my wife made childhood obesity her mission and I signed a law making 1/8 cup of tomato paste a vegetable, I'd be sleeping on the sofa.

~Alton Brown

Cranberries contain a massive amount of natural pectins. They will gel all on their own, which is why you can basically make cranberry sauce out of filling.

~Alton Brown

I became a cook so I could cook and tell stories in wacky ways.

~Alton Brown

I like television. I still believe that television is the most powerful form of

communication on Earth - I just hate what is being done with it.

~Alton Brown

Good service can save a bad meal, but there is no level of food that can save bad service.

~Alton Brown

Gluttony is wrong. It's wasteful.

~Alton Brown

It's funny, when you look back in history books or American cookery books, one of the reasons that the quinces and cranberries are used so often is because of their natural jelling properties.

~Alton Brown

I love poking fun at myself. I have a rather mean sense of humor.

~Alton Brown

Believe me, a grain is a terrible thing to waste.

~Alton Brown

The problem is I am both a procrastinator and a power junkie, so I am very frustrating to work with.

~Alton Brown

Last year, I made a refrigerator in my basement. And I needed to because I needed to figure how - you know there is no such thing as 'cold.' There is only less heat.

~Alton Brown

I approach cooking from a science angle because I need to understand how things work. If I understand the egg, I can scramble it better. It's a simple as that.

~Alton Brown

A balanced diet may be the best medicine. I was eating too much good eats. But people consider that part of your job, you know? Eat. And I do!

~Alton Brown

My feeling has always been that 'Good Eats' would have never happened had it been left to a committee.

~Alton Brown

Recipe writers hate to write about heat. They despise it. Because there aren't proper words for communicating what should be done with it.

~Alton Brown

Now my wife may think she's locked me out of the kitchen but MacGyver's not my patron saint for nothing.

~Alton Brown

I do like artfully breaking rules.

~Alton Brown

There are no bad foods, only bad food habits.

~Alton Brown

I'm like a really goofy home ec teacher.

~Alton Brown

Take ice. Ice is fascinating to me. Ice is the one thing in our world that went from an agricultural product to being manufactured.

~Alton Brown

I spent a college semester in a small town in Italy - and that is where I truly tasted food for the first time.

~Alton Brown

If you're good with a knife, you don't need your eyes.

~Alton Brown

I'm going from doing all of the work to having to delegate the work - which is almost harder for me than doing the work myself. I'm a lousy delegator, but I'm learning.

~Alton Brown

Molecular gastronomy is not bad... but without sound, basic culinary technique, it is useless.

~Alton Brown

I grill, therefore I am.

~Alton Brown

Stuffing is evil. Stuffing adds mass, so it slows the cooking. That's evil because the longer the bird cooks, the drier it will be.

~Alton Brown

Do not allow watching food to replace making food.

~Alton Brown

The skin is forming because of proteins, just like if you cook milk or anything else that's got a coagulant protein in it.

~Alton Brown

The only unitasker allowed in my kitchen is a fire extinguisher.

~Alton Brown

The way to any woman's heart, be she witch or Wonderwoman, princess or Pocahontas, is through her stomach.

~Alton Brown

Remember, America: organization will set you free.

~Alton Brown

Lumps are caused by one thing and one thing alone - the improper addition of a starch.

~Alton Brown

If I took my turkey out of the refrigerator and, like, threw it in a dumpster or drug it down the street in New York for a while [it will make people sick].

~Alton Brown

I want to bring things up to room temperature, especially poultry, before I cook it because I want it to cook faster so that there's less moisture loss.

~Alton Brown

I'm just sitting around thinking about turkey.

~Alton Brown

I have nothing but sympathy for the people who are forced to work with me. I'm better now at picking out those that want to play that game with me, and those that don't.

~Alton Brown

Racism. It's ugly. Even in tubers.

~Alton Brown

I looked for a very long time, knowing that it had to happen, but it took me a long time to find someone with the same background and whatnot and I finally found him

~Alton Brown

Wine is like women. It tempts you; it comforts you; it confuses you and can even turn on you when you least expect it. It can be your friend one

day and your enemy the next.

~Alton Brown

I am a filmmaker. That is all I've ever been. You know, Martin Scorsese makes films about the mob. And I make movies about food.

~Alton Brown

The jewel of the lard is right around the kidneys. But this is a fat that has a very specific crystalline formation and a high melting point.

~Alton Brown

I've learned that you shouldn't have preconceived notions about anybody.

~Alton Brown

I feel a strong wakeup call and need to build social connections.

~Alton Brown

If there's something I feel certain of, it is that we're not very aware of each other and that's largely because of social media.

~Alton Brown

I'm grateful my teenaged daughter is healthy and well and for the work I do to make a living.

~Alton Brown

When you're touring, you're constantly in motion.

~Alton Brown

I'm prickly. I fuss over every single detail.

~Alton Brown

I'm loyal and very good about giving people opportunities.

~Alton Brown

I'm not a slave driver or a yeller. I was yelled at in kitchens and other workplaces.

~Alton Brown

I do know I'm a control freak.

~Alton Brown

Enough people have now mentioned Bill Nye the Science Guy to me that I now desperately avoid it all costs.

~Alton Brown

You know most of the food that Americans hold so dear - things like hamburgers and hot dogs - were road food, but even before they were road food, they were peasant food.

~Alton Brown

Very good cooks who are employed as 'chefs' rarely refer to themselves as 'chefs.' They refer to themselves as 'cooks.'

~Alton Brown

Laminated Lettuce ... perfect for holiday gift giving.

~Alton Brown

Although I don't take myself very seriously, I do take my work extraordinarily seriously.

~Alton Brown

I can't talk about anything or write about anything if I don't understand it. So a lot of the stuff that I go through and a lot of the time that I spend is understanding.

~Alton Brown

I'm too tired to hate.

~Alton Brown

My advice: write down everything you eat. It's amazing what that "self honesty" can do for you. (Do you really want to have to confess that doughnut? I thought not.)

~Alton Brown

Seriously. I'm not very bright, and it takes a lot for me to get a concept - to really get a concept. To get it enough that it becomes part of me. But when it happens I get real excited about it

~Alton Brown

The worst food you'll ever eat will probably be prepared by a 'cook' who calls himself a 'chef.' Mark my words.

~Alton Brown

All that [replacing of fat] does is lead to dissatisfaction and I think that dissatisfaction results in overeating.

~Alton Brown

Unless your kid is Pele Jr., they're not going to be able to feed themselves from soccer. If your kid knows how to play soccer, but not make dinner, you have done them a disservice.

~Alton Brown

Your patience will be rewarded.

~Alton Brown

The turkey - my number one thing that people don't get is take that sucker out of the refrigerator about three hours before you plan on cooking it.

~Alton Brown

I feel like being on Broadway will convince my mother that my theater degree was worth it.

~Alton Brown

I don't like to be polarizing. It's not who I am.

~Alton Brown

I played every bad guy in Shakespeare.

~Alton Brown

I never rated my cuddle factor, but I expect it's pretty low.

~Alton Brown

I am publicly apolitical.

~Alton Brown

I never spoke about politics, with the exception of Election Night.

~Alton Brown

I am firmly in the lard camp. It must be what we call leaf lard, which is a specific kind of lard that resides around certain internal organs in the pig.

~Alton Brown

I hate using the word coagulant.

~Alton Brown

I keep the "ThunderCats" thermos safely in the kitchen.

~Alton Brown

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