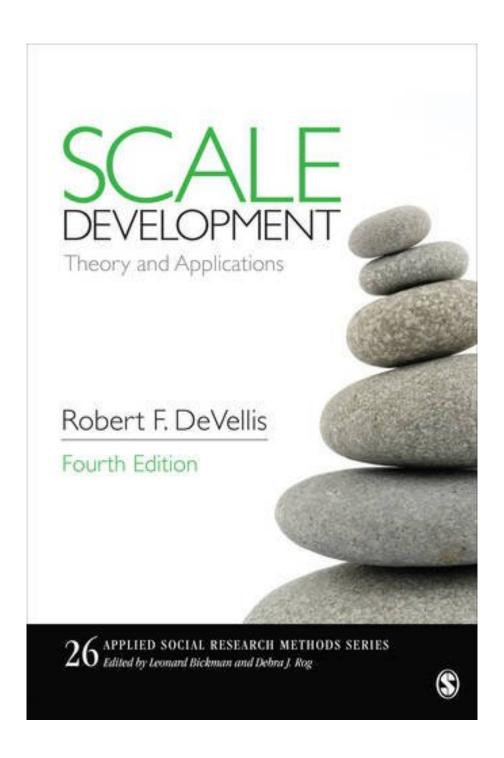


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Review

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Exactly how a concept can be got? By looking at the stars? By checking out the sea and also considering the sea interweaves? Or by checking out a publication **Scale Development: Theory And Applications** (**Applied Social Research Methods**) **By Robert F. DeVellis** Everybody will certainly have specific unique to obtain the motivation. For you who are passing away of books and also consistently get the inspirations from publications, it is actually wonderful to be right here. We will show you hundreds collections of the book Scale Development: Theory And Applications (Applied Social Research Methods) By Robert F. DeVellis to review. If you such as this Scale Development: Theory And Applications (Applied Social Research Methods) By Robert F. DeVellis, you can also take it as your own.

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In the Fourth Edition of Scale Development, Robert F. DeVellis demystifies measurement by emphasizing a logical rather than strictly mathematical understanding of concepts. The text supports readers in comprehending newer approaches to measurement, comparing them to classical approaches, and grasping more clearly the relative merits of each. This edition addresses new topics pertinent to modern measurement approaches and includes additional exercises and topics for class discussion.

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

It is easily accessible (i

By angel00seven

I am using this book for a scale development course at university. It is easily accessible (i.e. well-written). Most helpful in building a framework of scale development process, plus providing enough detail regarding things to consider, for example in and how to proceed with the item writing process and more. All in all, a great book, and well worth to have.

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful.

Solid Help for First-Time Scale Developers

By John M. Ford

My colleague Doug recently completed a research study on the level of engagement in the Federal workforce. He used data from a 2005 governmentwide survey of nearly 37,000 Federal employees. Although Doug has a solid background in Federal employment issues like employee engagement, this was the first time he used a group of survey questions to create and analyze a measurement scale. This book is one of the resources Doug used to make his project a success.

Robert DeVellis's book covers the fundamentals of social science scale development in a straightforward manner. This book explains basic measurement concepts clearly and contains sufficient practical guidance to support construction of a working scale. The reader will need to obtain access to a statistical program and instruction in its use from another source.

Chapter 1 briefly reviews the history of social science measurement, including the role played by statistics and psychophysics. A discussion of the relationship between theory and measurement includes the risks of careless measurement practice. It ends on page 13 with a useful one-paragraph preview of the remaining seven chapters. Chapter 2 defines the relationship between constructs and the measures that allow us to observe them. It introduces path diagrams and outlines the assumptions of classical measurement theory. Chapter 3 defines measurement reliability and introduces coefficient alpha as a measure of the internal consistency of a scale. More advanced reliability topics are outlined with some reference to formulas and covariance matrices.

The next two chapters are the book's core. Chapter 4 defines content, criterion-related, construct and face

validity and distinguishes between validity and accuracy. The discussion of validity coefficients and multi-method multi-trait approaches to studying validity equip the reader to understand validity studies in the measurement literature. Chapter 5 lays out an eight-step process for developing a scale of questions to measure some construct of the reader's choice. These steps are (slightly reworded):

- 1. Define clearly what you want to measure.
- 2. Create a set of draft questions.
- 3. Select a common format and set of answer options for the questions.
- 4. Have experts review and revise the questions.
- 5. Consider using "social desirability" or similar questions.
- 6. Field test the questions with "real people."
- 7. Analyze the results of your field test.
- 8. Decide how many questions--and which questions--to keep.

The real value in this book is the practical guidance given for each of these steps. There is enough here to get you through your first project, but not so much that it overwhelms.

Chapter 6 introduces factor analysis as a statistical procedure that helps scale developers understand how their scale works, particularly if there are two or three different things that the scale is measuring. The author does an excellent job explaining the concepts of factor analysis, how to select the right kind of analysis, and how to interpret the results without becoming mired in unnecessary technical detail. Chapter 7 is a similarly elegant treatment of item response theory. The reader is convinced that scale items each have a certain difficulty for test takers and a certain ability to discriminate between groups of test takers. The chapter explains these and related concepts sufficiently to illustrate their usefulness, leaving interested readers to learn more in one of the cited references. The final chapter encourages readers to take a broad, contextual view of measurement and sends them on their way to develop their scales.

Other sources are a better choice if you need a deeply technical reference about measurement (Psychometric Theory), factor analysis (Latent Variable Models and Factor Analysis), or item response theory (Item Response Theory for Psychologists). If you are developing your first scale--like Doug--or if you are often asked "How do I make a scale to measure this?" then you want this book close at hand.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Great Intro

By sand57

This book is a great introduction to psychometrics. If you knowledge of scale creation is somewhere between nothing and a moderate amount, then this book is for you. The book contains many helpful hints (such as how to generate questions/items) and helps make sure that you have a solid psychometrics foundation. So, make sure that you read it before you create your scale and pilot test it.

However, the book does not always give a ton of details. This can be both positive and negative. It is more of an outline about what to do than a detailed step-by-step guide. For instance, it explains how reliability is calculated for a 5-point scale (e.g., strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree) but it does not explain how reliability is calculated for a dichotomous scale (e.g., true, false). Other times, though, it gives solid details (e.g., your scale's pilot test should contain 3-4 times the number of items you want your final scale to have).

Nevertheless, if you need to brush up on scale creation concepts, you can read this entire book in a weekend and be in good shape. If you have ever taken an introduction to statistics course, then you will not be

overwhelmed by the statistics in this book as the book is much more conceptual than technical.

I'd recommend that you buy it and keep it on your shelf as a quick reference guide. I plan on referring back to it frequently, but I also plan on buying a more detailed psychometrics book.

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