Sciences in the spring of 1963. It was
belonged to one of two categories: the
unsophisticated. In a typical class only six
were bright but mathematically
deterred me, because by 1963 I was convinced
I saw a need for something in between, a
readable book that covered both elementary
and complex experimental designs without
glossing over underlying assumptions or
omitting important algebraic proofs. Since
Experimental Design has become one of the
most widely cited books in its field, such a need
apparently existed.

"I had always assumed that authors write
Chapter 1 first, Chapter 2 second, and so on.
But I found myself writing Chapter 4 first,
Chapter 8 second, and Chapter 7 third.
Chapter 1 was written last. The three
substantive contributions in the book which I
consider the most important were: (1)
development of my classification system for
experimental designs accompanied by an
abbreviated nomenclature, (2) identification of
three designs –the completely randomized,
randomized block, and Latin square designs –
as building blocks from which all complex
designs can be constructed, and (3) a more
extensive treatment of multiple comparison
procedures along with recommendations for
their use. At least one reviewer did not share
my enthusiasm for the ‘simpler’ nomenclature.
He wrote, ‘The author has a penchant for
acronyms (who would guess that YBIB-t was a
Youden square balanced incomplete block
design?)...that would make the most
imaginative Department of Defense official
green with jealousy.’"

"Experimental Design contains numerous
elements of personal significance. The book
jacket, for example, sports the colors of Ohio
State University, my alma mater, and the
square matrix on the cover was inspired by the
one on the dust jacket of The Design of
Experiments, the classic text by Sir Ronald
Fisher, that introduced me to the field."

1. Taylor P A. Review of Experimental design: procedures for the behavioral sciences by Roger