**Lewis Dot Structures**

Lewis structures, or dot diagrams, are a simplified way to show how the valence electrons are arranged in the outer shell. This outer shell of electrons is referred to as the *valence electrons*. This shell is where chemical reactions take place. Atoms will either share or give away these electrons to form bonds.

**Directions:**

• Using your periodic table, determine the number of valence electrons for each element.

• Draw a dot to represent each valence electron around the element symbol.

• Follow the pattern below starting with position number 1.

• Each side MUST get one valence electron on it before any single side can have two valence electrons.

