

Steps to Drawing Lewis Dots Structures

- 1) Draw the elements' symbol
- 2) Determine the number of valence electrons that element has
 - a. The number of valence electrons are the number of dots you need to draw around the element symbol
 - b. The number of valence electrons of an element determines how many bonds each atom of that element will form.
- 3) Place a dot at each corner of the symbol.
 - a. For elements with 5-8 valence electrons, after each corner of the element symbol has a dot, go around again until you have the appropriate number of dots (see Neon example).

Examples

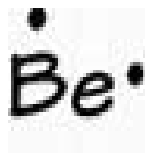
Hydrogen (H) has 1 valence



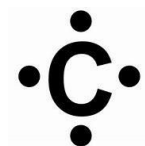
Helium (He) has 2 valence electrons (note the exception even though it's with noble gases)



Beryllium (Be) has 2 valence electrons



Carbon has 4 valence electrons



Neon has 8 valence electrons

