

Writing Dot Structures

Name _____

Date _____

- Add up the total number of valence electrons contributed by each atom in the formula. Normally you can determine the number of valence electrons that an atom has from its column in the periodic table
- Adjust the total for charges. Increase the total for each negative charge and decrease the total for each positive charge
- Usually designate the atom that is fewest in number as the central atom. Then distribute the electrons so that each atom has 8. A few atoms such as H and He have only two
- Use double bonds (or even triple bonds) if you do not have enough electrons
- If there are extra electrons assign them to the central atom

Write electron dot structures for each of the following. Show clearly the bonding and non bonding electrons



