### **Lewis Diagram Tips For Covalent Bonds**

- 1. Count the valence electrons
- 2. Place the least electronegative element at the center (except H, always outside atom)
- 3. Put the remaining atoms around the central atom (symmetrically if possible)
- 4. Add single bonds between the center atom and the outer atoms.
- 5. Add lone pairs to the outer atoms
- 6. Add lone pairs to the center atom
- 7. Make sure each atom has 8 electrons (if not, you may need a double or triple bond!)

### DON'T FORGET TO KEEP TRACK OF HOW MANY ELECTRONS YOU USE!

# YOU CAN ONLY USE UP TO THE NUMBER OF VALENCE ELECTRONS YOU HAVE!

1) 
$$CH_3I$$
 4 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 7 = 14 v.e

Number of Bonds Certain Atoms Like to Make		
H	1	
(always)	·	
F, Cl, Br	1	
(if not the central atom)	'	
C, Si	4	
O (if not the central atom)	1 or 2	

Exceptions to the Octet Rule These atoms don't always want		
8 v.e. to be stable  ATOM # e <sup>-</sup>		
Н	2	
В	6	
Р	10	
S	12	

BOND	SYMBOL	# OF SHARED e	
single	x—x	2	
double	x=x	4	Usually the only atoms you will
triple	x≡x	6	see making multiple bonds will be: C, N, O, S

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