

b) During a chemical reaction , each atom will lose one valence electron so as to attain the stable duplet or octet electron arrangement and form univalent positive ion

2. As we go down group 1

a) Atomic size increases

b) Nuclei attraction (attractive force between the protons in the nucleus and the valence electron) becomes weaker

c) The elements below the group lose the single valence electron easier and thus more reactive

Chemical Properties of Alkali Metals

1. Alkali metals react with water to form alkali solutions and hydrogen gas

2. Alkali metals react with chlorine gas to form halide salts

3. Alkali metals burn in air to form metal oxides which dissolve in water to form alkali solutions