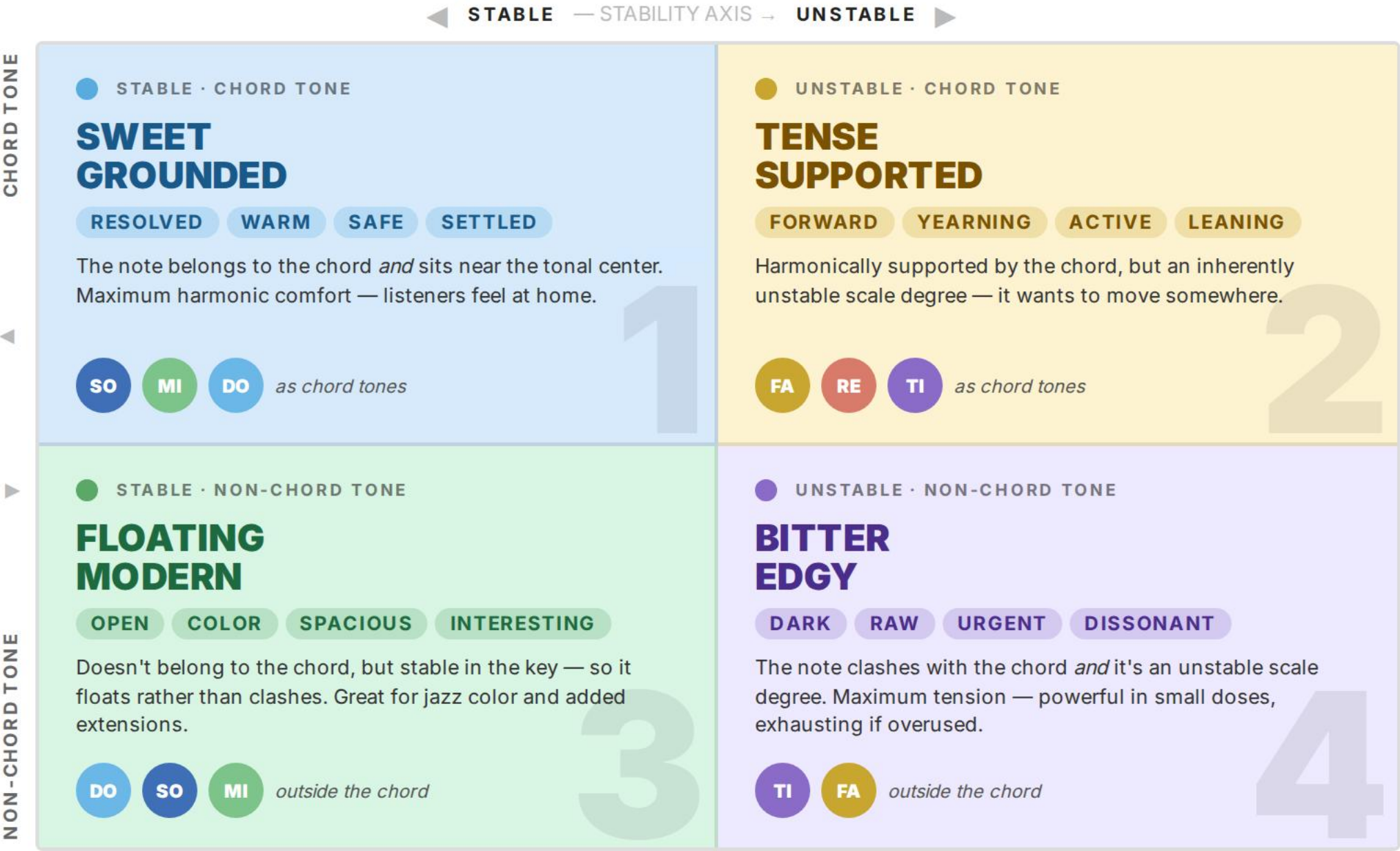


THE 4 EMOTIONAL ZONES OF MELODY

Every melody note lands in one of four zones based on two things: how stable the note is in the key, and whether it belongs to the current chord.

4
ZONES



STABILITY AXIS (VERTICAL)

How settled is this note in the key? Stable notes (DO, SO, MI) feel like home. Unstable notes (FA, TI, RE) feel like they need to move. This is about the note's place in the key — not the chord.

CHORD RELATIONSHIP (HORIZONTAL)

Is the note part of the chord currently playing? A chord tone has harmonic backing — it "fits." A non-chord tone floats above or collides with the chord — it adds color or tension depending on stability.

NEED RESOLUTION?

Land on Zone 1 — stable chord tones carry the feeling home.

NEED DRIVE / URGENCY?

Lean into Zone 2 — tense chord tones pull forward without falling apart.

NEED DARK INTENSITY?

Use Zone 4 — but land back in Zone 1 or it collapses.