

SAME NOTE, DIFFERENT CHORD

RE stays the same pitch in every example. Watch how the chord underneath transforms its emotional zone from searching to anchored and back again.



One note. Four chords. Four completely different emotional qualities.

C major

ZONE 4 BITTER

CHORD: DO MI SO | RE not in chord

Non-Chord Tone

RE sits above C major with no support. Unstable key degree + outside the chord = maximum searching energy. The note aches for resolution.

G7

ZONE 2 TENSE

CHORD: SO TI RE FA RE = 5th

Chord Tone (5th)

G7 claims RE as its 5th. Now harmonically supported — but RE is still an unstable scale degree. Grounded tension, leaning powerfully toward home.

Dm

ZONE 2 TENSE

CHORD: RE FA LA RE = root!

Chord Tone (Root)

RE is the root of Dm — the most important note in this chord. Maximum harmonic support. Still an unstable key degree, but now RE is the anchor, not the outsider.

Am

ZONE 4 BITTER

CHORD: LA DO MI | RE not in chord

Non-Chord Tone

RE adds a minor 9th above Am. Dark, edgy color — the minor 9th has particular intensity over a minor chord. Unstable key degree + outside the chord = bitter tension.

RE

THE ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLE — MODULE D

Every important melody note requires **two questions**: What is its scale degree? **And what chord is under it?** Only when you answer both do you know its emotional zone — and know whether it's serving your intention.