

Accented Non-Harmonic Tones - Cheat Sheet

Accented NHTs include suspension, retardation, appoggiatura, and pedal tone.

Suspensions mainly appear as 9-8, 7-6, 4-3, and 2-3. The numbers refer to the interval of the suspension above the bass and its resolution. A suspension can either be tied or rearticulated. They always resolve down by step.

here the 2nd is the dissonant interval. It opens to the 3rd when the bass resolves.

The musical notation shows four examples of suspensions in a grand staff.
 1. **sus 9-8**: A 9th interval above the bass, resolving down by step.
 2. **sus 4-3**: A 4th interval above the bass, resolving down by step. A note indicates '4th is the diss. interval. It falls to a 3rd'.
 3. **sus 7-6**: A 7th interval above the bass, resolving down by step. A note indicates '7th above the bass'.
 4. **sus 2-3**: A 2nd interval above the bass, resolving down by step. A note indicates 'here the 2nd is the dissonant interval. It opens to the 3rd when the bass resolves.'

Retardation - just like a sus., but resolves up by step. Mostly found at the end of pieces.

Appoggiatura - leaps, then steps back to the note. The leap can be in either direction, but it tends to be more effective ascending.

Pedal tone - starts and ends belonging to the chord. May or may not belong to the chords while it's held. We analyze the chords as if the pedal tone wasn't there (since it's non-harmonic)

The musical notation shows three examples of accented non-harmonic tones in a grand staff.
 1. **ret.**: Retardation, resolving up by step.
 2. **app.**: Appoggiatura, leaping then stepping back to the note.
 3. **ped.**: Pedal tone, held across multiple chords. The chords are labeled: C:V, ii⁶, iii, IV, and V⁷.

Example

The musical notation shows an example of accented non-harmonic tones in a grand staff.
 1. **sus 7-6**: A 7-6 suspension.
 2. **app.**: Appoggiatura.
 3. **sus 4-3**: A 4-3 suspension.
 4. **ret.**: Retardation.