

Suspensions

Music

Delaying a note so it clashes, then letting it fall into place.

Three stages, always in this order.

1

Preparation

The note appears as a consonance in the previous chord.

2

Suspension

The chord changes underneath; the note is held and is now a dissonance.

3

Resolution

The held note falls by step into the new chord.

THE 4-3 SUSPENSION

Over G: hold C from the previous chord
C against G is the 4th — dissonant
C falls to B, the 3rd. Resolved.

Sus2 and sus4 chords in pop are suspensions that are never resolved — the tension becomes the sound.