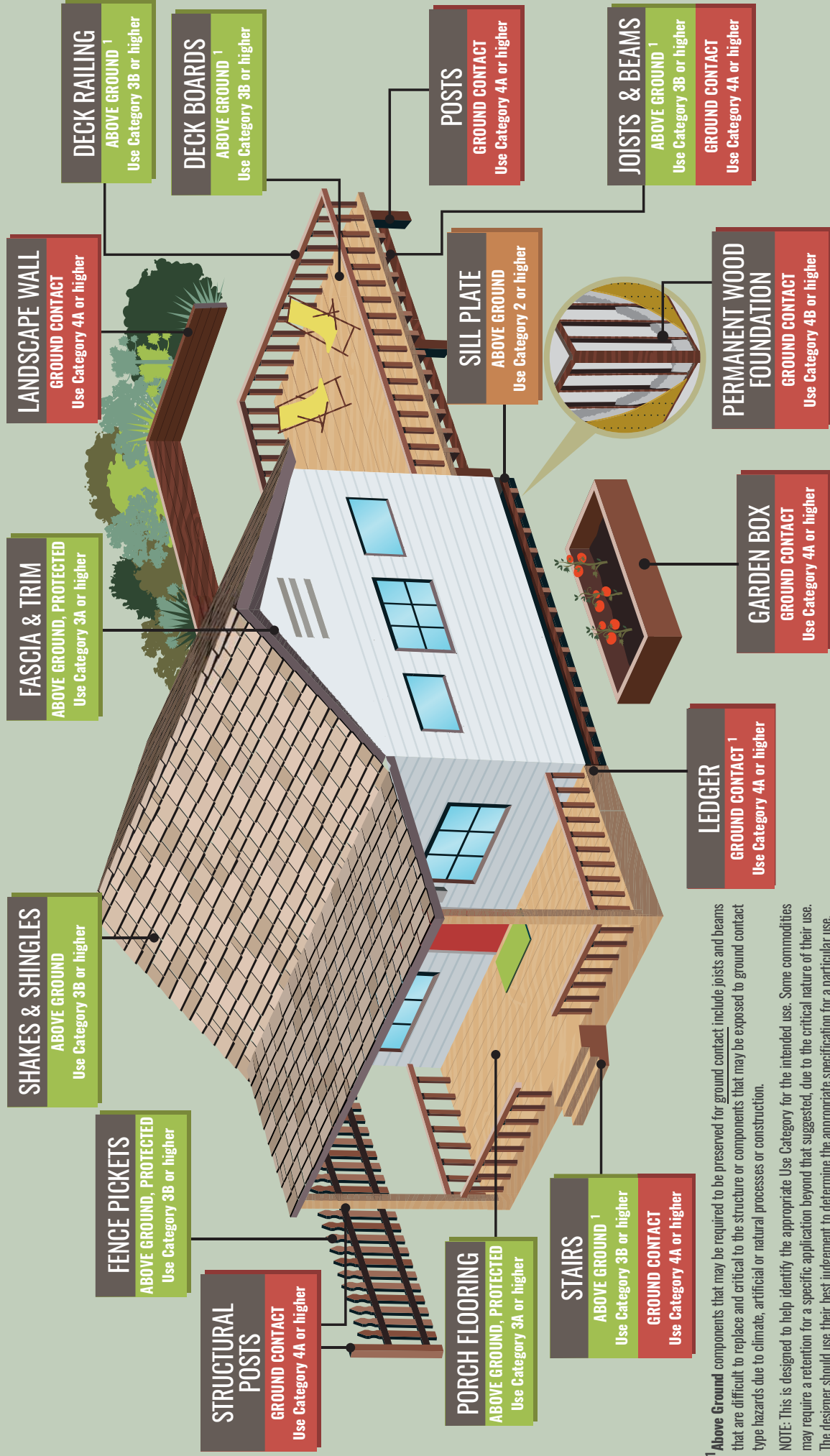


# — SELECT THE RIGHT PRESERVED WOOD FOR YOUR PROJECT —



<sup>1</sup>Above Ground components that may be required to be preserved for ground contact include joists and beams that are difficult to replace and critical to the structure or components that may be exposed to ground contact type hazards due to climate, artificial or natural processes or construction.

NOTE: This is designed to help identify the appropriate Use Category for the intended use. Some commodities may require a retention for a specific application beyond that suggested, due to the critical nature of their use. The designer should use their best judgement to determine the appropriate specification for a particular use.

## AMERICAN WOOD PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (AWPA) PRESERVED WOOD USE CATEGORIES

- UC2** Interior Construction, above ground, damp
- UC3** Above Ground, exterior construction  
UC3A - Coated, rapid water runoff  
UC3B - Uncoated, poor water runoff <sup>1</sup>
- UC4** Ground Contact, fresh water  
UC4A - General use <sup>1</sup>  
UC4B - Heavy duty

Use Category (UC) information is found on the end tag or treatment stamp

## UNDERSTANDING THE END TAG



## Use of AWPA Infographic Explained

The recently published American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) 2016 Book of Standards addresses changes in Above Ground (UC3B) and Ground Contact (UC4A) use conditions for treated wood. As part of the standards process, the AWPA approved a proposal to define situations where pressure preservative treated lumber may be physically above the ground, but have conditions that would approximate ground contact hazards.

Regardless of whether you use or specify Above Ground (UC3B) or Ground Contact (UC4A) preserved wood, choose the right level of protection based on the AWPA Standards, your experience and your project circumstances.

The 2016 AWPA Book of Standards aids in your proper selection of preserved wood. We strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself with these recent AWPA changes to help ensure you specify and use the proper preserved wood for a given project. Consider the intended and actual site conditions, end use, or other relevant factors that may impact the design, construction and performance of your project.

We would suggest you make all preserved wood decisions on a case by case basis, bearing in mind the longevity of the preserved wood, cost, human safety and the environment. Again, to guide those decisions, we encourage you to buy the 2016 AWPA Book of Standards, read it and make your judgement based on the particular circumstances of your project.

If you need more information or assistance go to [www.awpa.com](http://www.awpa.com), or allied associations such as the Southern Forest Products Association [www.sfpa.org](http://www.sfpa.org) or the Western Wood Preservers Institute [www.preservedwood.org](http://www.preservedwood.org).

## UNDERSTANDING THE END TAG

