

Collision Position Statement October 1, 2025

## **CLEARCOAT BLENDING**

Ford Motor Company does not approve of the use of clearcoat blending on exterior body panels or surfaces for maintaining the vehicle's original manufacturers finish quality or durability. Partial clearcoat blending, similarly, has not been tested by Ford Motor Company and does not have Ford Motor Company's approval.

## Rationale

- Blended edges taper below the 2 mil clearcoat minimum, which can lead to UV degradation, lifting, and discoloration over time.
- Ford Motor Company original equipment paint manuals disallow clearcoat blending applied over a blended edge.
- Ford Motor Company will not warrant products applied over a blended edge when such application deviates from Ford Motor Company's specified repair procedures. If such an application directly causes subsequent damage to the painted panel or to other vehicle components, the resulting damage will not be covered or warranted under Lincoln Motor Company's warranty or extended service plan.
- Consumers leasing from Ford Motor Company may be liable, under the Ford Motor Company Red Carpet Lease Agreement, for chargebacks due to paint repairs not considered to be normal wear and tear.

## **Ford Motor Company Approved Procedure**

- For optimal results and to maintain Ford Motor Company's finish standards, only the basecoat should be blended to the panel break (e.g., ditch line).
- Apply full-panel clearcoat per Ford Motor Company's approved paint system manual.

## Support

- Ford Dealers: <u>www.fordtechservice.dealerconnection.com</u>
- Independent Collision Repairers: <a href="https://www.fordserviceinfo.com">www.fordserviceinfo.com</a>

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