

Collision Position Statement October 1, 2025

CLEARCOAT BLENDING

Lincoln 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 Lincoln and does not have Lincoln's approval.

Rationale

- Blended edges taper below the 2 mil clearcoat minimum, which can lead to UV degradation, lifting, and discoloration over time.
- Lincoln original equipment paint manuals disallow clearcoat blending applied over a blended edge.
- Lincoln will not warrant products applied over a blended edge when such application deviates from Lincoln'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's warranty or extended service plan.
- Consumers leasing from Lincoln may be liable, under the Lincoln Red Carpet Lease Agreement, for chargebacks due to paint repairs not considered to be normal wear and tear.

Lincoln Approved Procedure

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

Support

- Lincoln Dealers: www.fordtechservice.dealerconnection.com
- Independent Collision Repairers: <u>www.fordserviceinfo.com</u>

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