



Collision Position Statement

October 1, 2025

CLIP REPAIR (SECTIONING OF TWO VEHICLES) PROCEDURE NOT APPROVED

Lincoln does not approve or validate so-called “clip” repairs (i.e., joining panels or structures from two separate vehicles) to restore collision damage.

Lincoln Warranty Impact

Any use of a clip repair is not warranted by Lincoln. If a clip repair directly causes subsequent damage to the vehicle or its components, the resulting damage will not be covered or warranted under Lincoln’s warranty, or service plan on original or clip-sourced components, assembly, or system.

Rationale

- **Structural Integrity & Crashworthiness**
 - ❑ Lincoln’s body structures are engineered, crash-tested and validated as a complete system. Clip repairs introduce untested welds, mismatched alloys and unknown heat-affected zones that can alter how crash energy is managed and jeopardize occupant protection.
- **Hidden Damage & Corrosion Risk**
 - ❑ Parts removed from another vehicle may have unseen stress cracks, corrosion or fatigue damage. Once installed, these flaws can grow, compromising long-term durability and safety.
- **Fit, Function & Compatibility**
 - ❑ Even within the same model line, mid-year design changes by Lincoln affect bracketry, panel contours and attachment points. A clip part may not align properly, causing poor panel gaps, water intrusion or sensor misalignment.
- **Predictability & Quality Control**
 - ❑ Lincoln original equipment parts and approved repair procedures are designed to ensure a known, repeatable process—essential for consistent quality, reliable diagnostics and calibrated advanced driver assistance system (ADAS) performance.

Lincoln Key Concerns Include

- Hidden damage in clip components, assemblies or systems
- Weather exposure and improper removal techniques that degrade material properties
- Welding heat-affected zones (HAZ), especially in ultra-high-strength steels
- Mismatches from mid-model updates or specification changes



Lincoln Original Equipment Parts & Procedures

- Lincoln vehicles are engineered for optimum fit, function, safety and structural integrity. Only new Lincoln original equipment parts, adhesives and fasteners are tested to meet these standards. Recycled, salvaged, “like-kind” aftermarket or reconditioned components have not been validated by Lincoln and may compromise the vehicle’s integrity.
- In short, because every clip repair is unique, Lincoln recommends that Lincoln Dealers and Independent Collision Repairers avoid clip repairs to preserve the engineered safety, performance, and quality that customers expect from every Lincoln vehicle.

Support

- Lincoln Dealers: www.fordtechservice.dealerconnection.com
- Independent Collision Repairers: www.fordserviceinfo.com

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