

FREE SAMPLE

The opening pages of

1962 Lincoln Continental Restoration Guide

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Factory-Correct Restoration Reference

1962 Lincoln Continental Restoration Guide

Model Years 1962

Model year	1962 — the quiet refinement year
Body styles	4-door sedan; 4-door convertible
Wheelbase	123 in
Engine	430 cu in MEL V8, 300 hp / 465 lb-ft
Transmission	3-speed Turbo-Drive automatic
Brakes	Four-wheel drums
Production	27,849 built (published) — see corrections
Doors	Rear-hinged rear doors, both bodies

Every specification in this guide was checked against factory literature, marque references, period road tests, and documented survivor vehicles. Where sources disagree or the record is silent, this guide says so rather than guessing.

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What This Year Is — and What Changed

Lincoln left the 1961 formula almost alone for 1962 and was rewarded for it: buyers kept the cars longer and sales climbed. The 1962 car is identified by its simpler grille and a whisker more length. Underneath, it is the same unibody, the same 430 MEL and the same drum brakes — which makes this guide's job precise identification, because a 1962 wearing 1961 or 1963 trim is a common sight.

1962 change register

- New, simpler grille: floating rectangles with a thin center bar replace the 1961 pattern.
- Overall length grows about 0.6 in; wheelbase stays 123 in.
- No mechanical headline changes: 430 MEL at 300 hp, generator charging, drum brakes, curved side glass all carry over.
- Production climbs over 20 percent on published sales histories; the house research figure for cars built is 27,849 — the two counts measure different things and both are reported in this guide's research file.



Factory Specification — 1962

Item	Factory specification	Notes
Engine	430 cu in MEL V8	300 hp / 465 lb-ft (factory gross)
Wheel base / length	123 in / ~212.6 in	Length + 0.6 in vs 1961
Grille	Floating rectangular, thin center bar	1962-only pattern
Charging	Generator	Final full year of generator fitment
Brakes	Drums, front and rear	