

FREE SAMPLE

The opening pages of

1969 Lincoln Continental Restoration Guide

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Factory-Correct Restoration Reference

1969 Lincoln Continental Restoration Guide

Model Years 1969

Model year	1969 — final year; last of the suicide doors
Body styles	4-door sedan; 2-door hardtop coupe
Wheelbase	126 in
Engine	460 cu in 385-series V8, 365 hp
Transmission	3-speed Turbo-Drive automatic
Brakes	Front discs, rear drums
Production	38,383 Continental + 30,858 Mark III (published)
Interior news	Town Car package debuts

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

The 1969 Continental closes the generation the way it began — with the sedan's center-opening doors, which no Lincoln would carry again. Changes over 1968 are few: head restraints, the debut of the Town Car interior package, and the 460 as the standard engine. It is the last and, mechanically, the most parts-friendly of the slab-side cars.

1969 change register

- Final production year of the fourth generation — and the last year any Lincoln used rear-hinged ('suicide') rear doors.
- Federally mandated head restraints become standard.
- Town Car interior package debuts: leather-and-vinyl seats and door panels, napped-nylon headlining, extra-plush carpeting, color-keyed instrument-panel trim — the nameplate's long future starts here as an option package.
- 460 V8 (365 hp) is the standard engine for the year. Torque: the house research file records 500 lb-ft; Hagerty lists 485 lb-ft — printed as a conflict, not a choice. Early-run cars should still be verified by engine code, as the 462-to-460 changeover straddled the 1968-69 boundary in published accounts.
- Few other changes from 1968 — the Mark III (30,858 built) is where Lincoln's coupe energy now goes.



Factory Specification — 1969

Item	Factory specification	Notes
Engine	460 cu in 385-series V8	365 hp; torque 485-500 lb-ft (source conflict)
Wheelbase / length	126 in / ~221 in	
Body styles	Sedan; coupe	Not convertible
Headrests	Standard	New for 1969 (federal mandate)