



Wenzl's Collision Center Updates Consumer Information on Post-Collision Vehicle Inspections

August 31, 2026

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Wenzl's Collision Center has updated its consumer information on post-collision vehicle inspections, adding a more defined explanation of how visible damage, component operation, vehicle-specific repair information, and conditions documented during repair planning can contribute to an evaluation after an accident.

The August update expands the company's existing collision repair information with a consumer-focused reference intended to distinguish between conditions a vehicle owner can observe after an impact and technical findings that require inspection, research, or access to affected areas. The material emphasizes that exterior observations can provide a useful starting point without independently establishing the complete condition of the vehicle or its eventual repair requirements.

Wenzl's Collision Center developed the updated material for consumers served by its Lincoln facility and surrounding communities. The information is designed to explain the progression from initial documentation to more detailed repair planning. It is not presented as a diagnostic checklist, and it does not replace repair

procedures or technical information applicable to an individual vehicle.

Visible exterior changes are among the first conditions that can be documented following a collision. Dented panels, displaced bumper covers, damaged lamps, broken or shifted trim, and changes in the position of exterior components can identify areas directly affected by an impact. Photographs and written observations can provide an initial record of the vehicle's visible condition.

The updated resource gives additional attention to component fit and operation. A door, hood, trunk lid, liftgate, bumper, lamp assembly, or other exterior component may appear positioned differently or operate differently after an accident. Documenting those changes can provide useful information when the affected area is subsequently evaluated.

The material distinguishes these observations from a technical diagnosis. A change in panel position or component operation does not, by itself, identify the underlying cause or establish that a particular part requires repair or replacement. Instead, the observation can direct attention to an area that may warrant further evaluation.

That distinction also applies to visible collision damage. Exterior appearance can indicate where contact occurred, but the dimensions of a dent, scrape, crack, or displaced component do not necessarily determine the repair procedure. Repair planning incorporates the actual condition of the affected components along with applicable vehicle information.

Vehicle identification and construction represent another part of the updated consumer reference. Model year, make, model, installed equipment, component materials, and the location of the impact can influence the technical information relevant to a repair.

Modern vehicle construction can include different grades of steel, aluminum, plastics, composites, and other materials across exterior and supporting components. As a result, two components with generally similar exterior damage can present different repair considerations depending on their construction and the procedures established for the particular vehicle.

Manufacturer repair information can provide details concerning materials, component removal and installation, joining methods, repair restrictions, inspection procedures, and other operations. The specific information required depends on the vehicle, affected area, and work being considered rather than a single procedure being applied to every collision.

I-CAR's Repairability Technical Support resources provide independent industry context for this vehicle-specific approach. The platform maintains technical information intended to assist collision repair

professionals in researching OEM procedures, vehicle construction, and other repairability considerations.

The independent technical resource is available through I-CAR Repairability Technical Support.

Wenzl's Collision Center references I-CAR as an independent source of collision repair information. The company's August consumer material was developed by Wenzl's Collision Center and is not presented as an I-CAR publication, standard, sponsorship, affiliation, or endorsement.

The updated information also addresses advanced driver-assistance systems and other electronic equipment that may be located in exterior areas. Depending on the vehicle, cameras, radar units, parking sensors, and related components can be positioned in or near bumpers, windshields, mirrors, lamps, grilles, and other parts affected during a collision.

The presence of this equipment does not mean that an impact automatically creates a scanning, calibration, replacement, or other specific repair requirement. Applicable procedures depend on the individual vehicle, affected system, repair operation, and relevant manufacturer information.

This distinction is included to help consumers understand why the location of collision damage can be relevant even when a camera or sensor does not appear visibly damaged. Identifying the vehicle's installed equipment allows technicians to research the procedures applicable to the affected area without presuming that a particular operation will be required.

Another area expanded in the August update concerns access during repair planning. An initial exterior inspection can document conditions that are visible and accessible at that stage, but exterior components can sometimes limit access to brackets, fasteners, mounting points, reinforcements, absorbers, and adjacent areas.

When removal or disassembly is appropriate during repair planning, technicians can gain access to areas that could not previously be examined to the same extent. Conditions documented after that access becomes available can then be incorporated into the repair information.

The resource specifically avoids characterizing this process as proof that every collision creates hidden damage. Additional damage is not presumed because a bumper, panel, or other component was involved in an impact. Instead, additional conditions become part of the repair plan when they are identified through inspection and documentation.

The distinction also helps explain why an initial inspection and a later repair plan can contain different levels of detail without necessarily conflicting with one another. The initial evaluation reflects information available at

that stage, while subsequent access and vehicle-specific research can provide additional information relevant to the repair.

For consumers, the updated material presents post-collision evaluation as a progression. Observable exterior conditions provide an initial record of affected areas. Vehicle identification and installed equipment help establish which technical information should be researched. Additional access during repair planning can then allow other relevant areas to be evaluated when necessary.

The August update also provides context for differences between vehicles involved in apparently similar incidents. Two vehicles with comparable exterior damage may differ in component materials, construction methods, installed technology, attachment systems, or manufacturer procedures. Those differences can affect the evaluation and repair-planning process even when the visible results of the impacts appear similar.

Wenzl's Collision Center has added the expanded inspection information to its existing collision repair consumer resource. The update provides vehicle owners with a more focused explanation of the information that can be gathered at different stages following a collision and the role vehicle-specific research can play in developing a repair plan.

The company also maintains information about auto body repair, including services associated with restoring collision-damaged exterior components. Company updates and other information are available through Wenzl's Collision Center on Facebook.

About Wenzl's Collision Center

Wenzl's Collision Center serves Lincoln, Nebraska, and surrounding communities from its facility at 4515 N 62nd St. The company provides collision repair, auto body repair, paintless dent repair, repair planning, and related vehicle restoration services.

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For more information about Wenzl's Collision Center, contact the company here: Wenzl's Collision Center
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Wenzl's Collision Center

Wenzl's Collision Center has provided trusted collision repair in Lincoln, NE since 1971. Family-owned and OEM-focused, we deliver expert auto body repair, precision painting, insurance assistance, and honest service you can

trust.

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