

YES NO**Body**

- Are seams where doors and fenders meet even and straight? Are the gaps the same distance at top and bottom on side pillars?
- Are seams where the hood and trunk meet the fenders even and straight? Are they the same distance apart on both sides of the car?
- Does a magnet cling to all steel body panels? (Be sure to test fenders, the lower corners of doors, and rocker panels—the areas below doors. If a magnet doesn't cling, suspect body filler was used to repair rust or accident damage.) **Magnets may scratch paint so do not slide them across the body, lift and place in suspect areas.**
- Are all body panels the same color? (painted panels are very hard to match perfectly, closely inspect at fender seams for a fresher looking paint)
- Has the car been recently repainted? (Look for signs of spray paint on moldings; also check the edges of the doors, hood, and trunk to be sure they are all the same color. Fresh paint may cover rust that will continue to progress.)

YES NO**Tires**

- Do all tires have the same amount of tread? (A good tread depth gauge for tires is looking to see how far Lincoln's head fits in the tread on tires – use a penny to check.)
- Are all tires the same size? (Check tire size markings on tire sidewalls. Example: 285/75/r16. This is the size of the tire. Are they all the same?)
- Are all tires the same brand? (Tires of different brands may cause a radial pull. This can feel like an alignment issue during your road test.)
- Is there a spare tire, jack, and lug wrench? If the vehicle has locking wheel studs where is the key for removing them?
- Is the spare tire inflated (Press hard against the side with your thumb; the tire should be firm.)

YES NO**Suspension**

- Does the vehicle sit level? (If not this is something your mechanic should inspect)
- Bounce each corner of the vehicle. Do all corners respond the same? (Corners should only bounce once or twice before stopping. If vehicle easy to bounce/or bounces more than twice when testing this is a sign of weak shocks/struts.)
- Do you hear a creaking noise when bouncing the vehicle's corners? (There are many rubber bushings that can wear over time. This should be inspected by your mechanic.)

YES NO**Frame**

- Examine inside trunk, wheel wells, and under hood. Do you see areas that look like they have been crumpled and straightened?
- Look underneath each side of the vehicle for a row of holes in the frame just inside the vehicle's outer edge. Do holes appear scratched or recently cleaned? (If so, suspect the frame has been straightened after a crash.)

YES NO**Accessories**

- Do all accessories, such as the heater, air conditioner, audio system, and alarm system, operate fully? Test all functions of each.

YES NO**Engine Compartment – If any of the following are checked yes the vehicle could need costly repairs and needs to be checked by your mechanic.**

- Are there signs of oil or fluid leaks?
- Run the engine at full operating temperature. Are there abnormal smells that might be due to leaking fluids on hot engine parts?
- Are there unusual noises, such as clattering or metallic sounds, or sharp hissing, in the engine compartment when the engine is running? (Normal sound is smooth whirring of belts and fan.)