

## And it's still running?

You paid a lot of money for your car, and when it doesn't run right, you're apt to throw a fit. But put yourself in the car's place.

The average age of cars in use in America is six years. Each has more than 15,000 parts welded and bolted together. If you drive a typical eight-cylinder model, here's what it went through.

Each spark plug fired 15 million times, the points opened and closed 120 million times, the coil delivered 120 million jolts, the carburetor mixed 3.1 billion cubic feet of air with 763 gallons of gas, the fuel pump pulsed 15 million times, each valve opened and closed 15 million times and the speedometer cable rotated 10 million times.

Each piston in the engine traveled more than 3,000 miles up and down inside the cylinder. Add to this the time the engine was idling (not recorded on the odometer) and you have the equivalent of another 2,000 miles of driving time.



The 1977 Continental Mark V (front) poses for a family portrait with its ancestors: the original Continental (upper left), the Continental Mark II (left center), the Continental Mark III (upper right) and the Mark IV.

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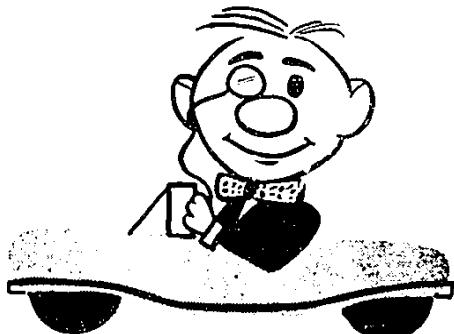


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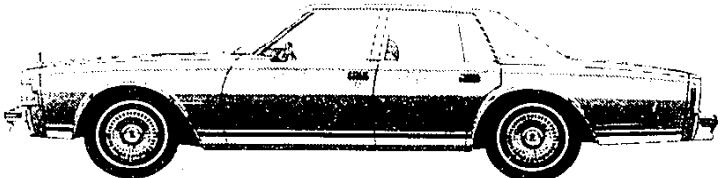
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