

V16 Restore – Engine Machine Work

Chapter 5

This is the fifth of many articles covering my experience restoring a 1940 V16 Town Car. For an introduction, start with the first chapter.

Mark Clayton at RestoreCars sends pictures and videos to keep me updated on progress. This chapter shows sonic testing along with a miscellaneous topic of the water distribution tube.

Sonic Testing

Prior to enlarging a cylinder, sonic testing measures cylinder wall thickness to ensure enough metal remains.

On this engine, minimum wall thickness:



On this engine, maximum wall thickness:



Water Distribution Tube

I'm uncertain of the proper name for this part, it is easily a manifold. Installed in the engine block, it exists behind the water pump and directs coolant flow inside the block. For the V16 one exists for each bank of cylinders. During engine cleaning, the machinist removed one. The removal caused extensive damage. The decision was to leave the second one in place. Similar damage is reported to me by three different machinists on Gen 2 V16 rebuilds.

