

9" rear axle lengths

- 65-66 Mustang 57.25 inches
 - 67-70 Mustang 59.25 inches
 - 71-73 Mustang 61.25 inches
 - 77-81 Versailles 58.50 inches
 - 67-73 Mustang, Torino, Ranchero, Fairlane 9" 59.25 inches to 61.25 inches
 - 57-59 Ranchero and station wagon rears, 57.25 inches
 - 66-77 Bronco 9", 58 inches
 - 77-81 Granada/Versailles, 58 inches
 - 67-71 Comet, Cougar, Mustang, Fairlane, 59.25 inches
 - 71-73 Mustang, 61.25 inches
 - 64 Falcon 58 inches
 - 67 Cougar 60 inches
 - 67 Fairlane 63.50 inches (coil springs)
 - 72 Ford Van 3/4 ton 68 inches
 - 73-86 65.25 inches
 - 57-59 Ranchero and station wagon 57.25 inches (narrowest 9" housing)
 - 66-77 Bronco 58 inches but has 5-on-5 1/2 inch diameter bolt circle
 - 67-73 Torinos, Rancheros, Fairlanes 59.25 inches or 61.25 inches
 - 67-71 Comets, Cougars, Fairlanes 59.25 inches
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Where to find the 9" rear axle

- 67-73 medium and big block Mustangs and Cougars
 - 66-71 Fairlanes, Torinos, Montegos, Comets, and other Ford intermediates with big blocks
 - 57-59 V8 Fords and Mercurys
 - 77-81 Lincoln Versailles & Trucks
 - 70-72 F100 2WD Trucks
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Type of 9" axle housings

- 67-73 Mustang/Cougar - light duty, thinnest housing material, small axle bearings, 28 and 31 splines
- 57-68 passenger car and 1/2 ton truck - medium duty, stronger than Mustang type, 28 and 31 splines

- Ranchero/Torino - heavy duty thick wall housing, 3.25 inch diameter axle tubes with flat tops
 - 69-77 Galaxies (coils), Lincolns (coils), and late pickups (leaf)- 3.25 inch diameter all the way to the backing plate, coil housings have upper control arm mount
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How to recognize 9" housing centres

- 57 - no dimples, flat center band up the center of the rear cover, bottom drain plug
 - 58-59 - two dimples on back of housing, flat center band, some had drain holes
 - 60-67 - two dimples, flat center band, oil level hole in back cover
 - 63-77 Lincoln, LTD, Thunderbirds had 9.375 inch centers, housings were cut away at the gasket surface for ring gear clearance, one curved rib at the front top portion of differential, strong but no gears
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Types of 9" Axles

- 28 spline axles cannot be shortened and resplined (they're tapered)
- 72 and earlier 31 spline axles have the ability to be shortened
- 73 and later 9" (cars) have a 5-on-5 bolt circle and the axles cannot be shortened
- 67-73 Mustang axles identified by wheel flange:
 - oval hole - 28 splines
 - two large holes and counter sunk center - 31 splines

I have been told that a complete 9" rear axle weighs an even 200 lbs. It weighed 168 minus drums. This is a complete 9" with center section, brakes, everything. It was 56" wide from backing plate to plate. It's the small web housing with the tapered tubes found on early Mustangs. Included in the weight is a non nodular center section, gutted carrier with mini spool, 28 spline non-tapered axles and 10" finned drums.

As a side note, a 9" complete rear axle is approximately 35 pounds heavier than an 8.8 rear axle with approximately the same components.