ART ZONE TUTORIAL 1 OF 9

Fill Outline

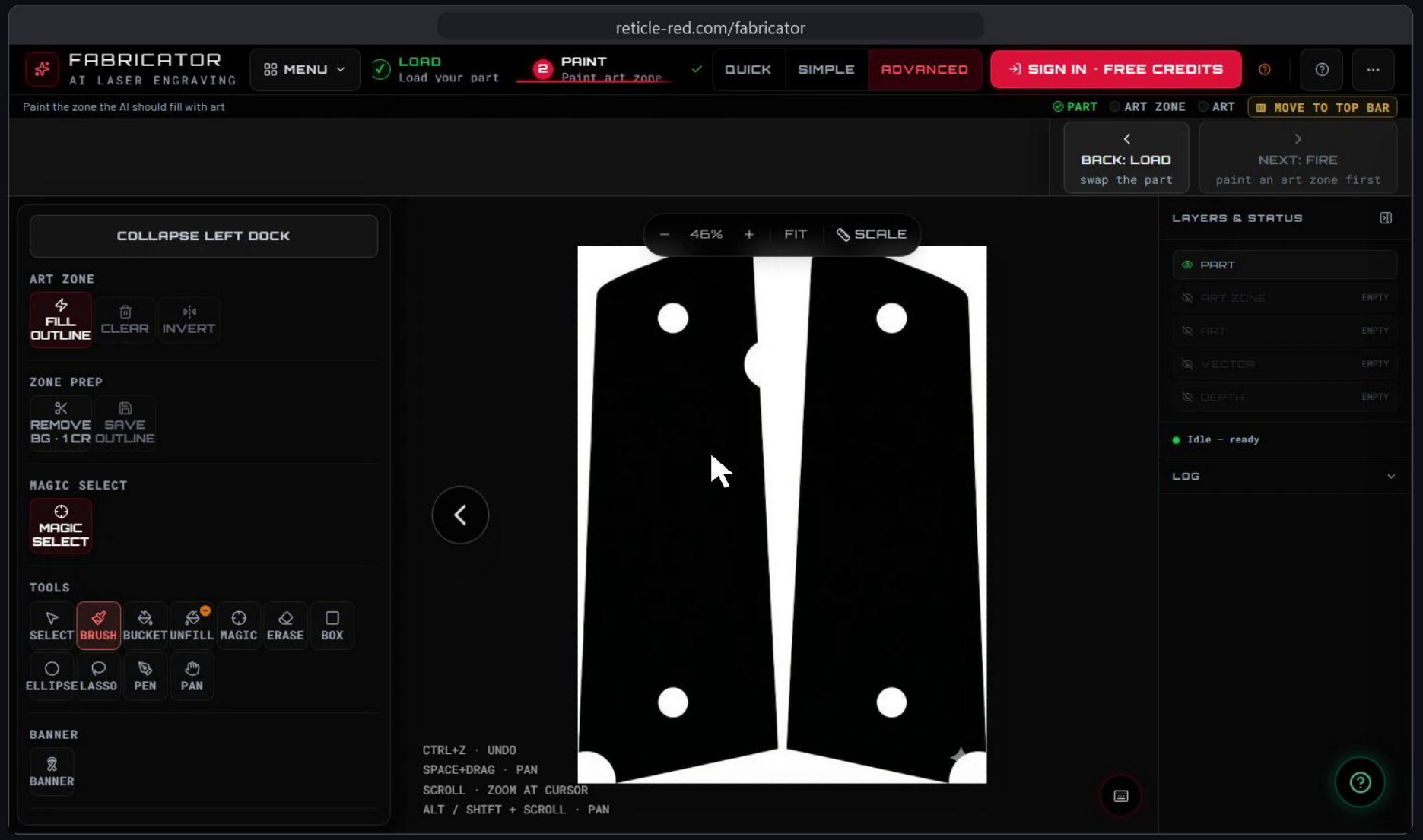
One click paints your whole part

Best for: Clean outlines, silhouettes and part templates

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

reticle-red.com/fabricator

Fill Outline — One click paints your whole part



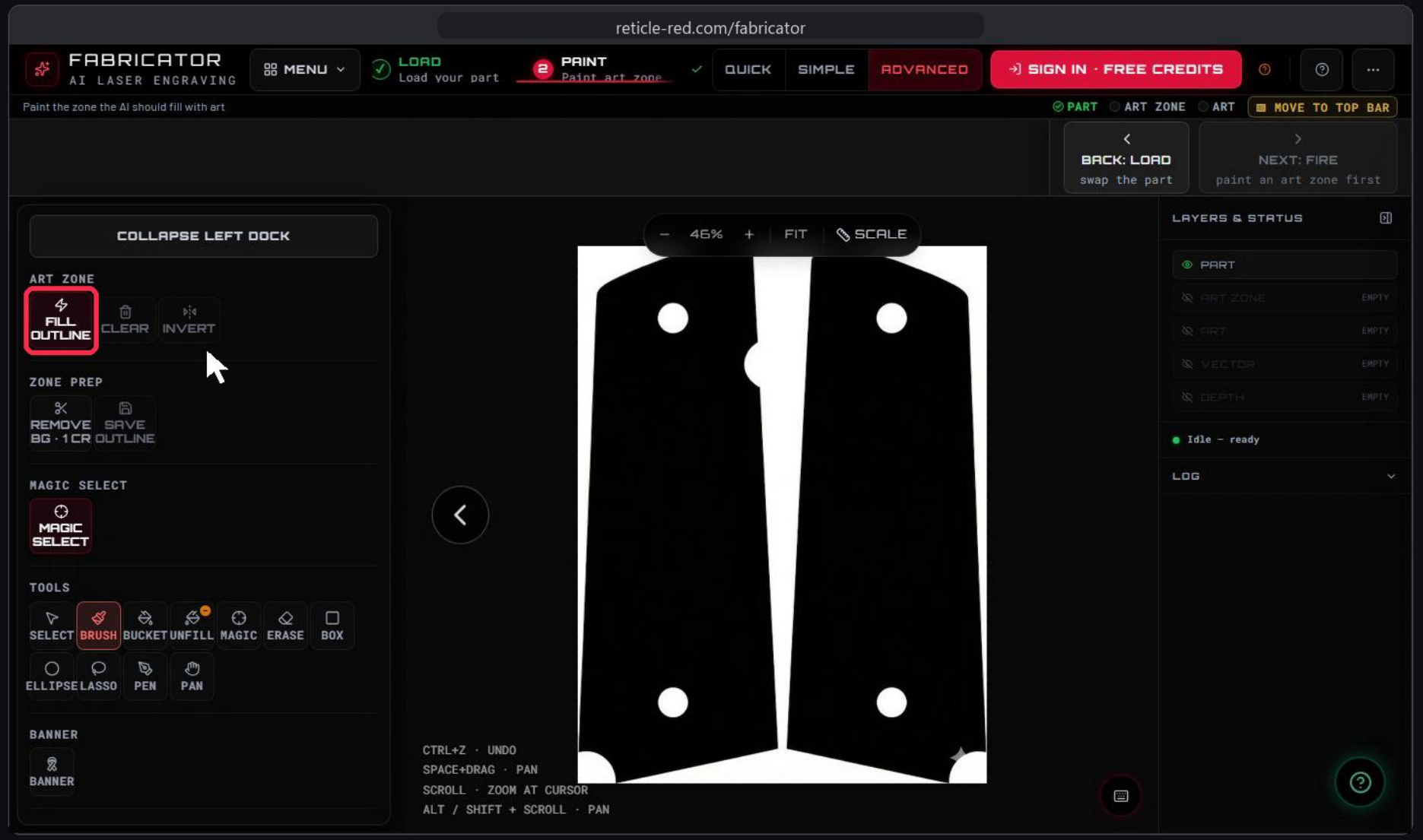
STEP 1 OF 5

Start on PAINT with your part loaded

This is the sample grip pair. The art zone is empty: nothing is painted yet.

RETICLE RED · ART ZONE TUTORIAL 1 OF 9

Fill Outline — One click paints your whole part



STEP 2 OF 5

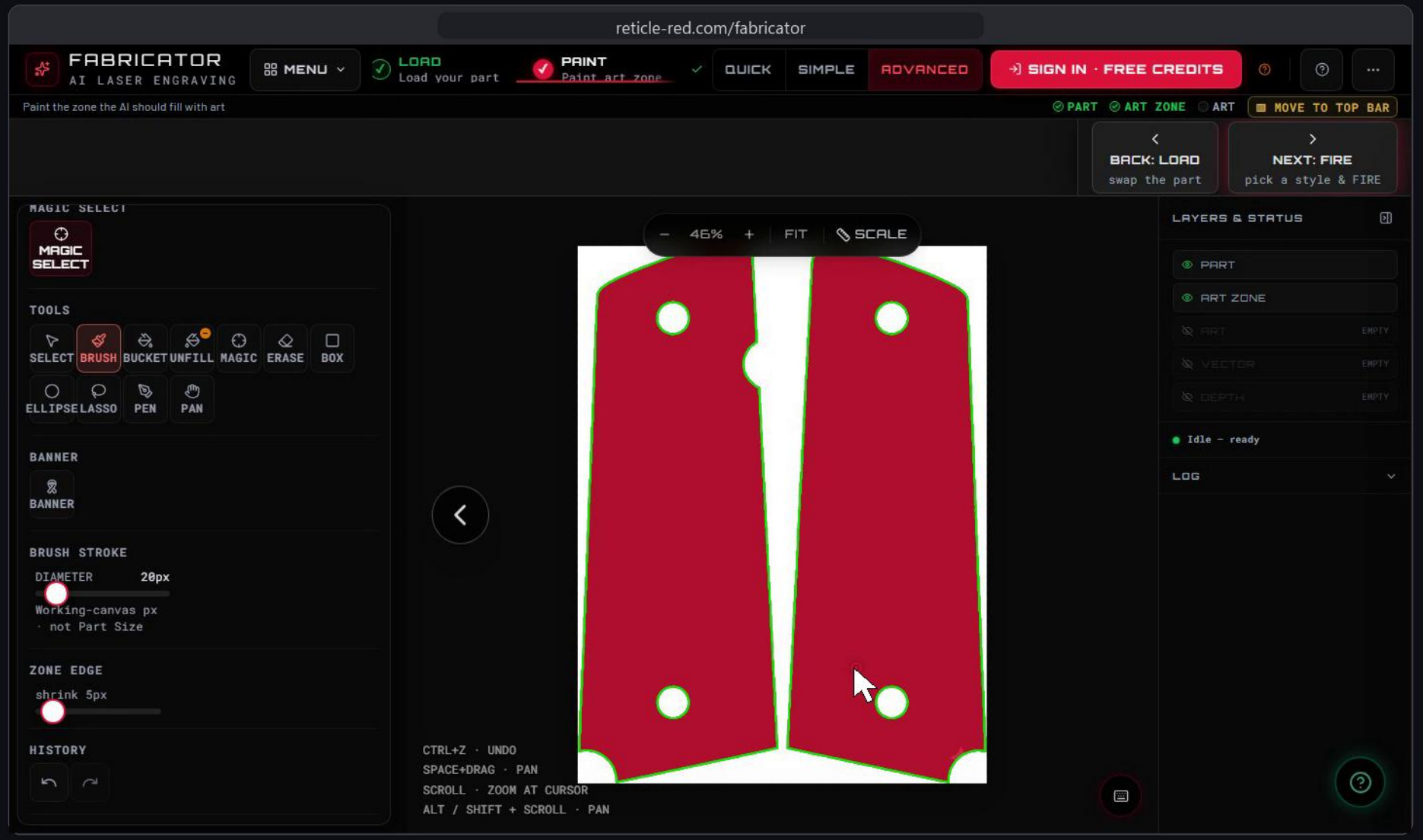
Click FILL OUTLINE

It finds your part's shape and paints the whole inside. Free, no AI, no credits.

CLOSE-UP



Fill Outline — One click paints your whole part

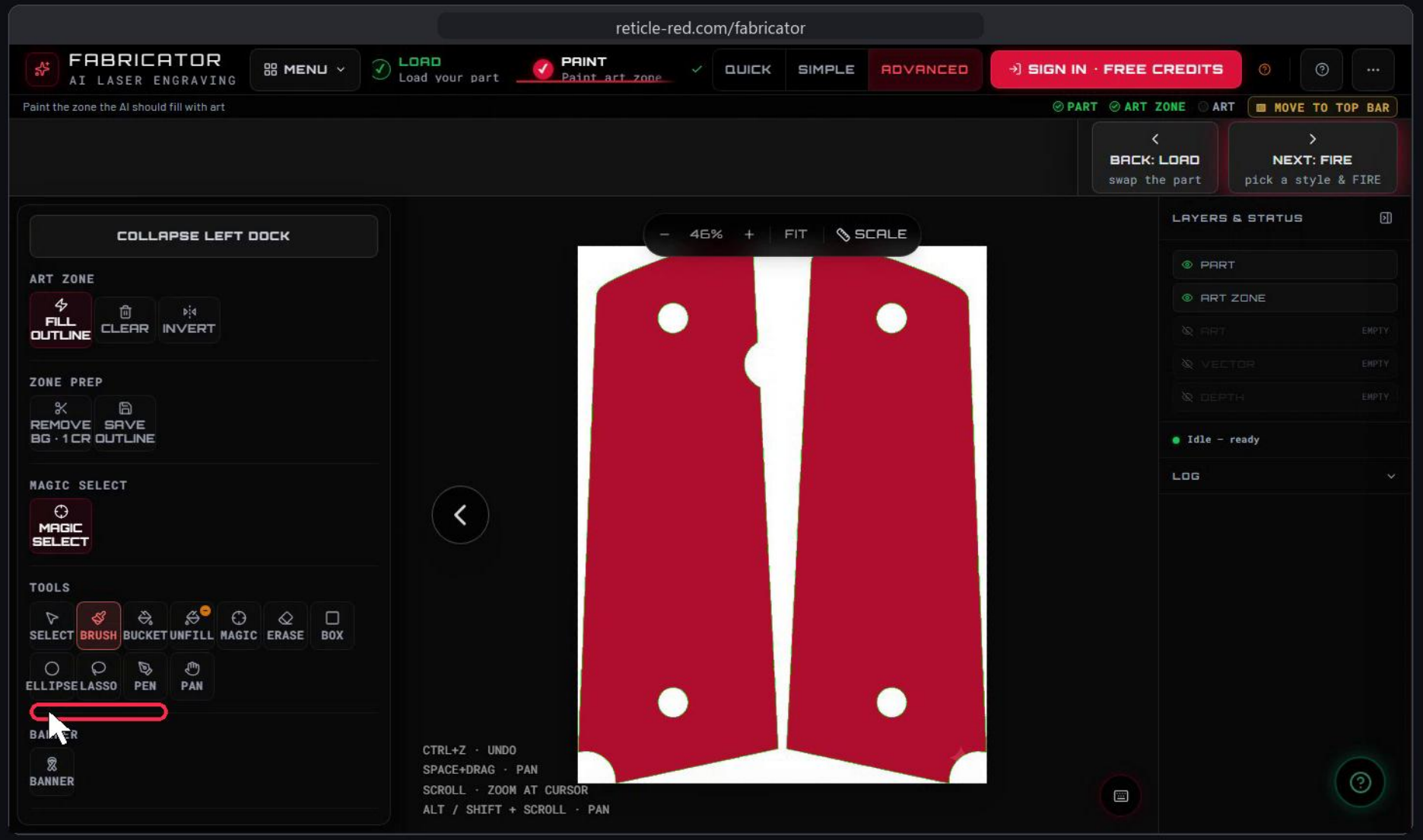


STEP 3 OF 5

Holes stay clear

Screw holes and cut-outs are carved out automatically, so the art goes around them.

Fill Outline — One click paints your whole part



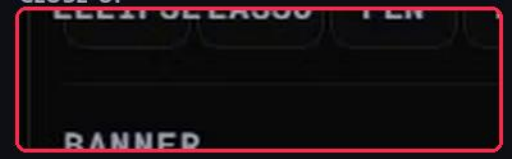
STEP 4 OF 5

Zone Edge: pull the art in from the edge

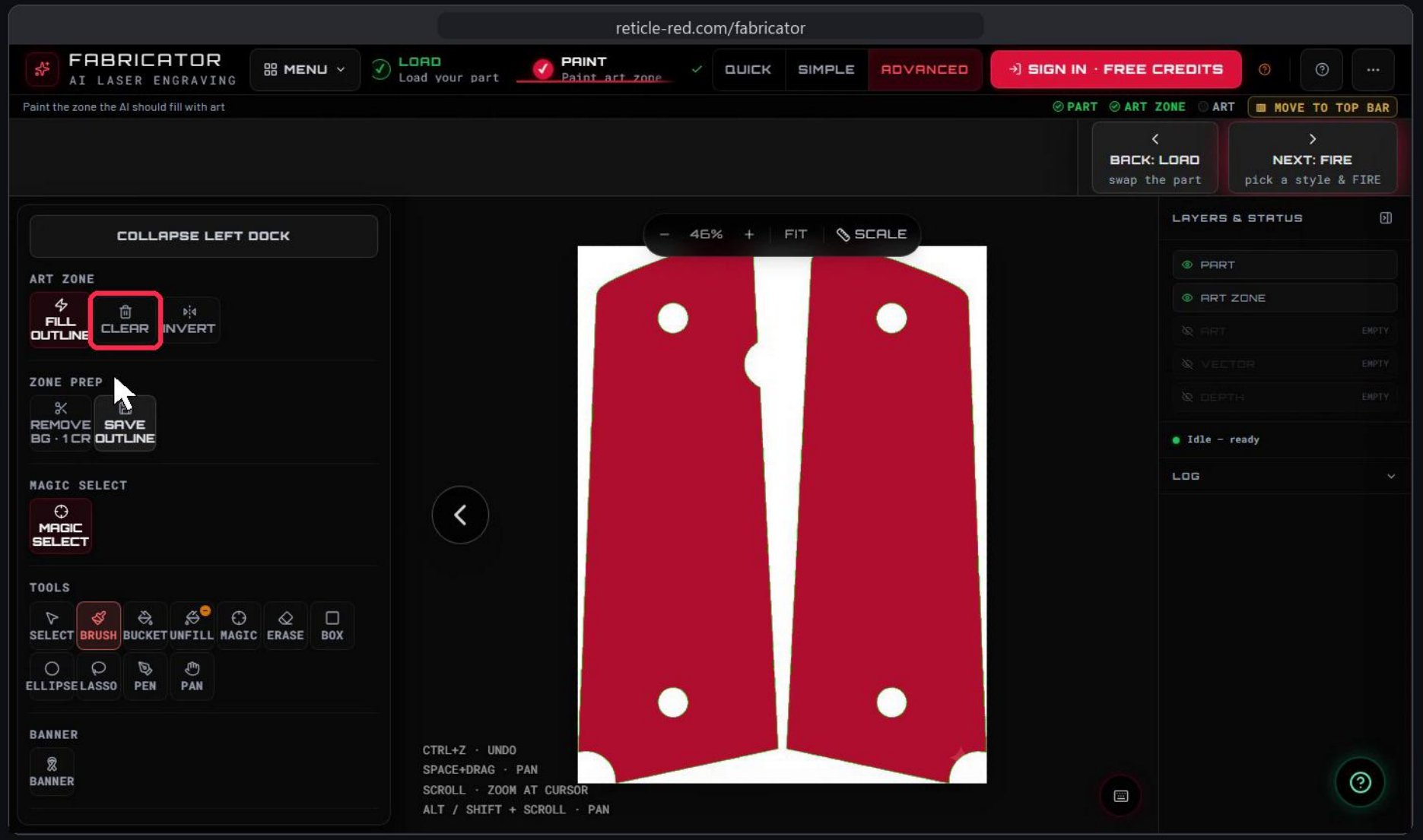
Drag ZONE EDGE to leave a border. The green ring shows the new edge while you drag.

Set it to 0 to run the art right to the edge.

CLOSE-UP



Fill Outline — One click paints your whole part



STEP 5 OF 5

Start over any time

CLEAR empties the zone. Ctrl+Z (Cmd+Z on a Mac) brings it straight back.

CLOSE-UP



ART ZONE TUTORIAL 2 OF 9

Brush and Erase

Paint the art zone by hand

Best for: Any shape, touch-ups, photos

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

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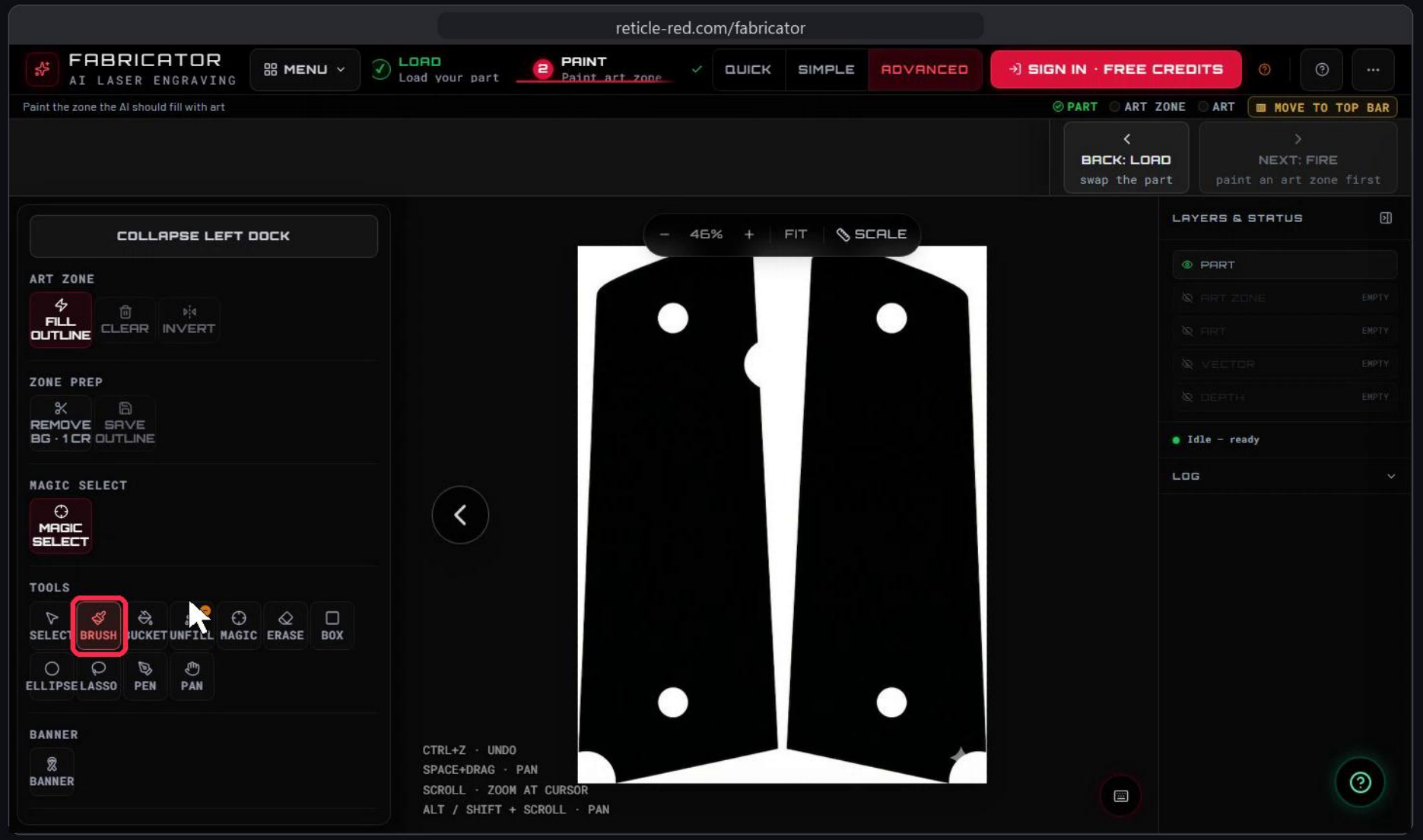
RETICLE RED · ART ZONE TUTORIAL 2 OF 9

Brush and Erase — Paint the art zone by hand

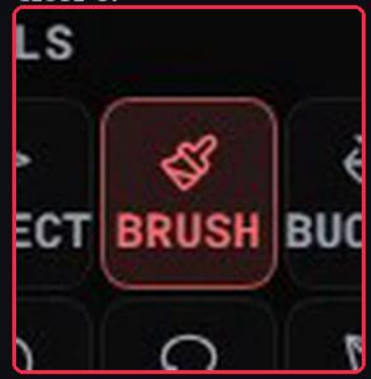


STEP 1 OF 5

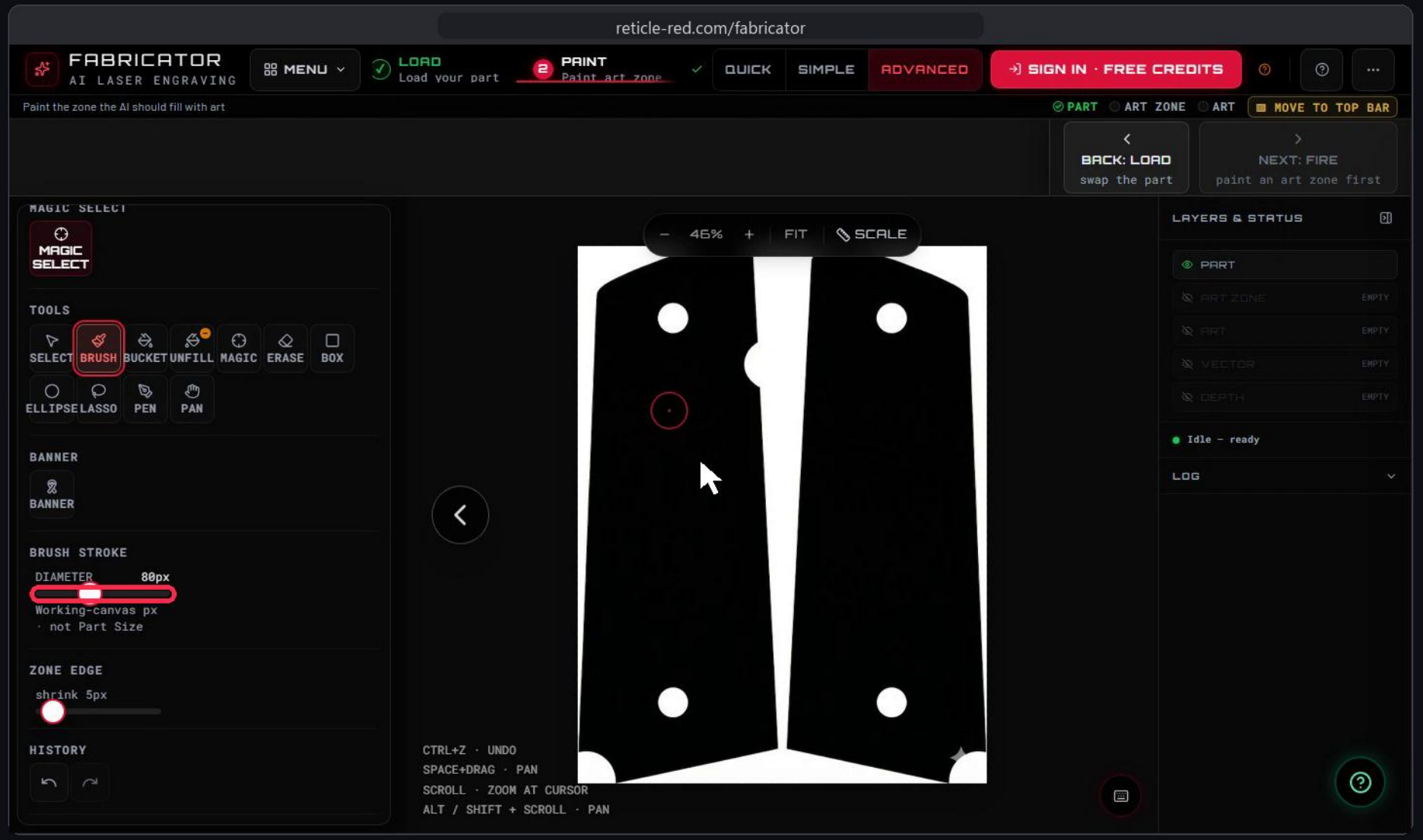
Pick BRUSH

In the TOOLS group, click BRUSH, or press B.

CLOSE-UP



Brush and Erase — Paint the art zone by hand

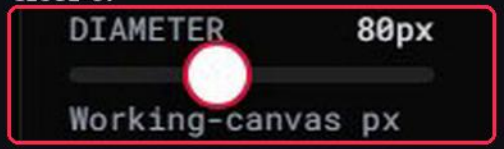


STEP 2 OF 5

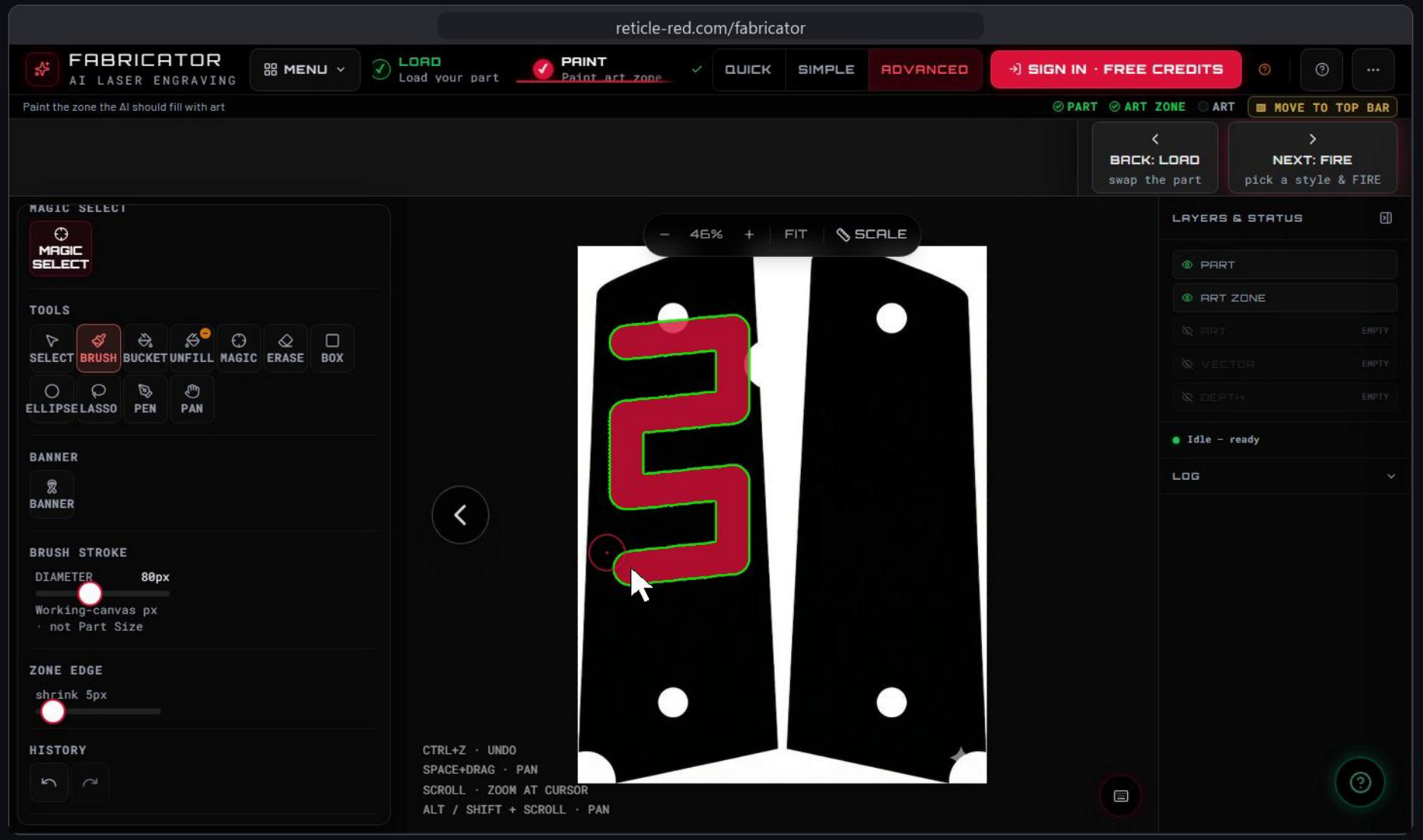
Set the brush size

Drag DIAMETER, or press] to grow and [to shrink. Hold Shift for big steps.

CLOSE-UP



Brush and Erase — Paint the art zone by hand

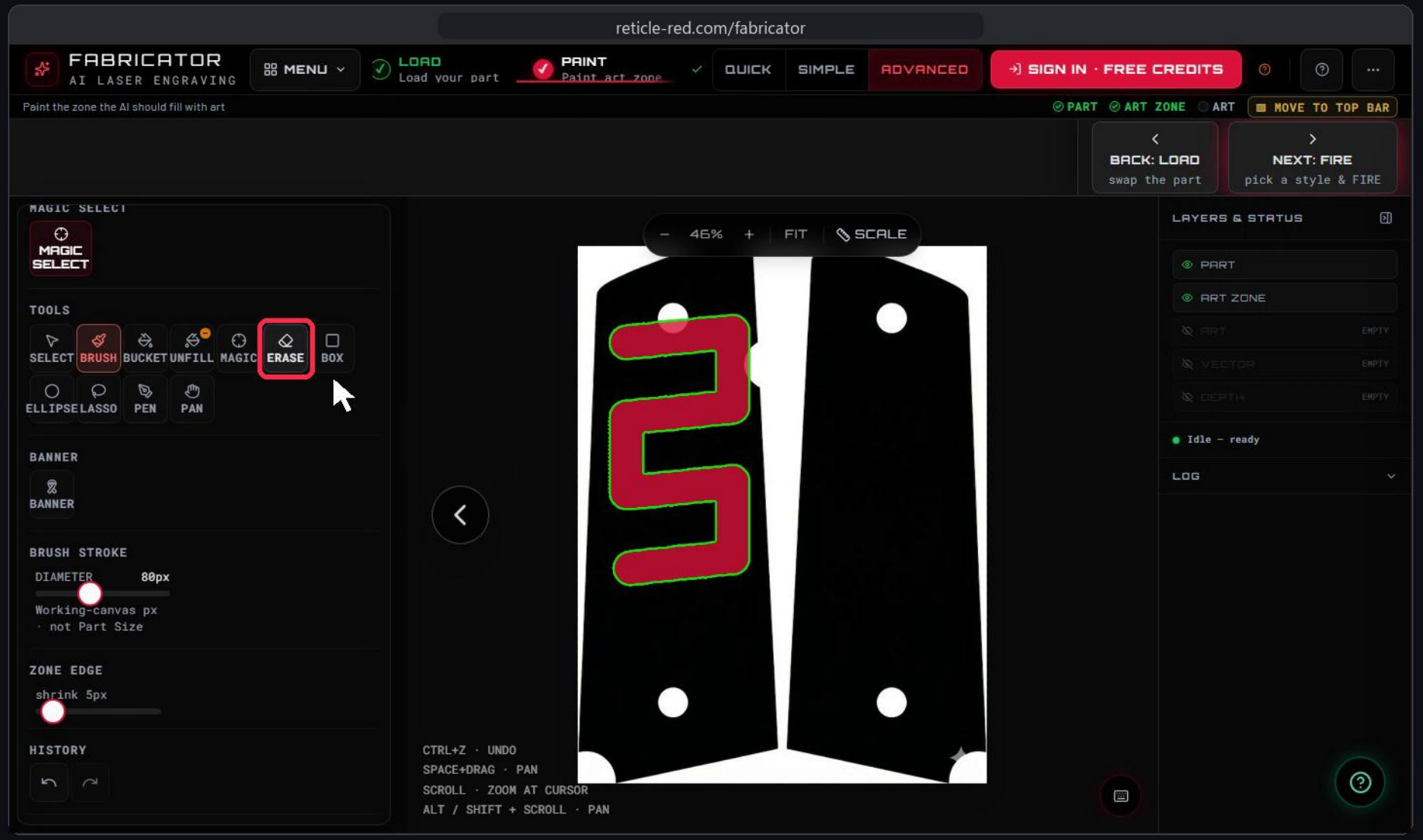


STEP 3 OF 5

Paint where you want art

Drag on the canvas. Pink shows the art zone: the AI fills only what you paint.

Brush and Erase — Paint the art zone by hand

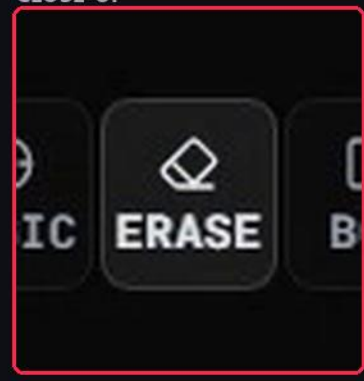


STEP 4 OF 5

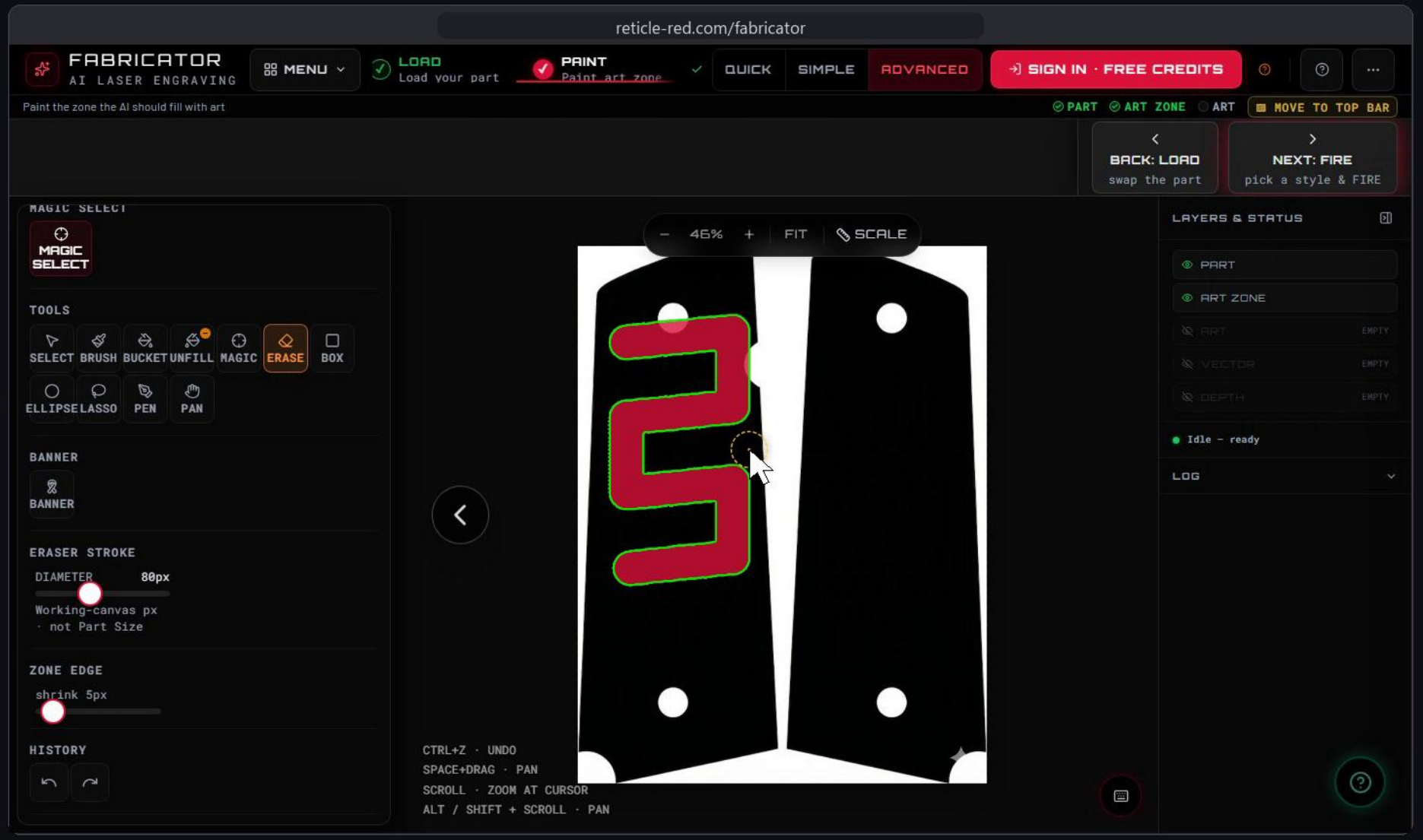
ERASE to clean up

Click ERASE, or press E, and drag over anything you painted by mistake.

CLOSE-UP



Brush and Erase — Paint the art zone by hand



STEP 5 OF 5

Undo a stroke

Ctrl+Z (Cmd+Z on a Mac) undoes the last stroke.

ART ZONE TUTORIAL 3 OF 9

Bucket and Unfill

Fill a closed outline with one click

Best for: Line drawings from xTool, LightBurn or a scan

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

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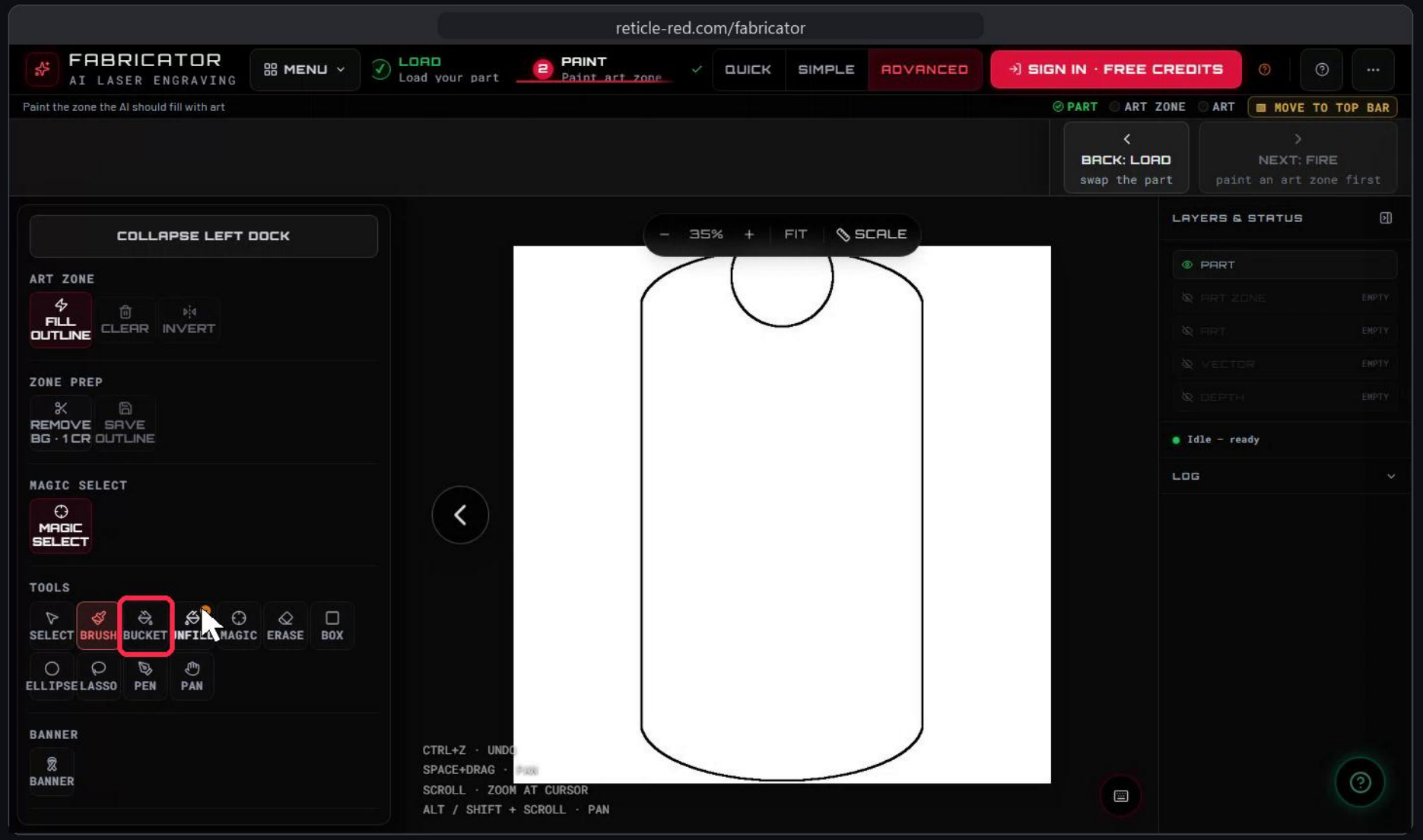
RETICLE RED · ART ZONE TUTORIAL 3 OF 9

Bucket and Unfill — Fill a closed outline with one click



STEP 1 OF 5

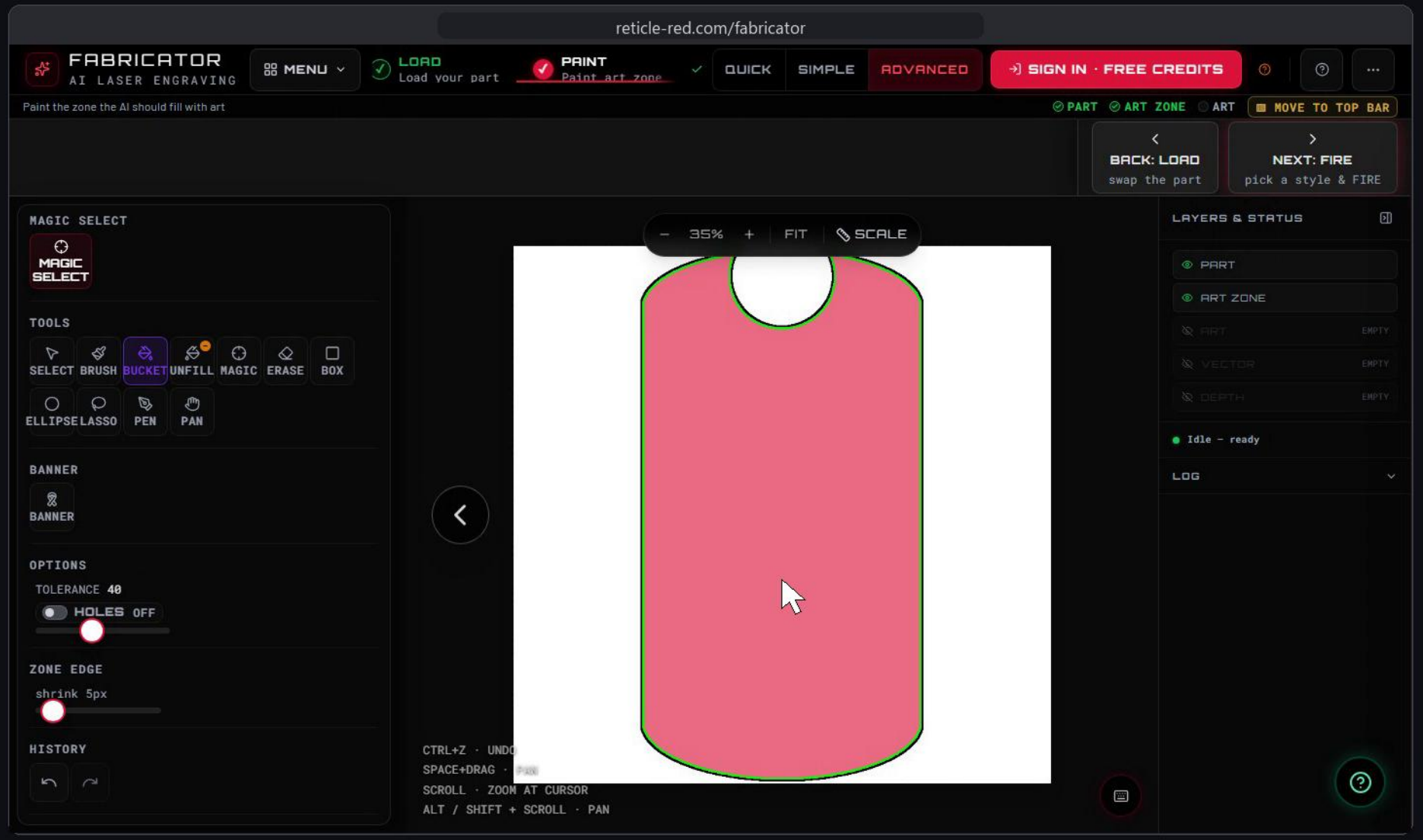
Pick BUCKET

Best for line-drawn outlines. Click BUCKET, or press G.

CLOSE-UP



Bucket and Unfill — Fill a closed outline with one click

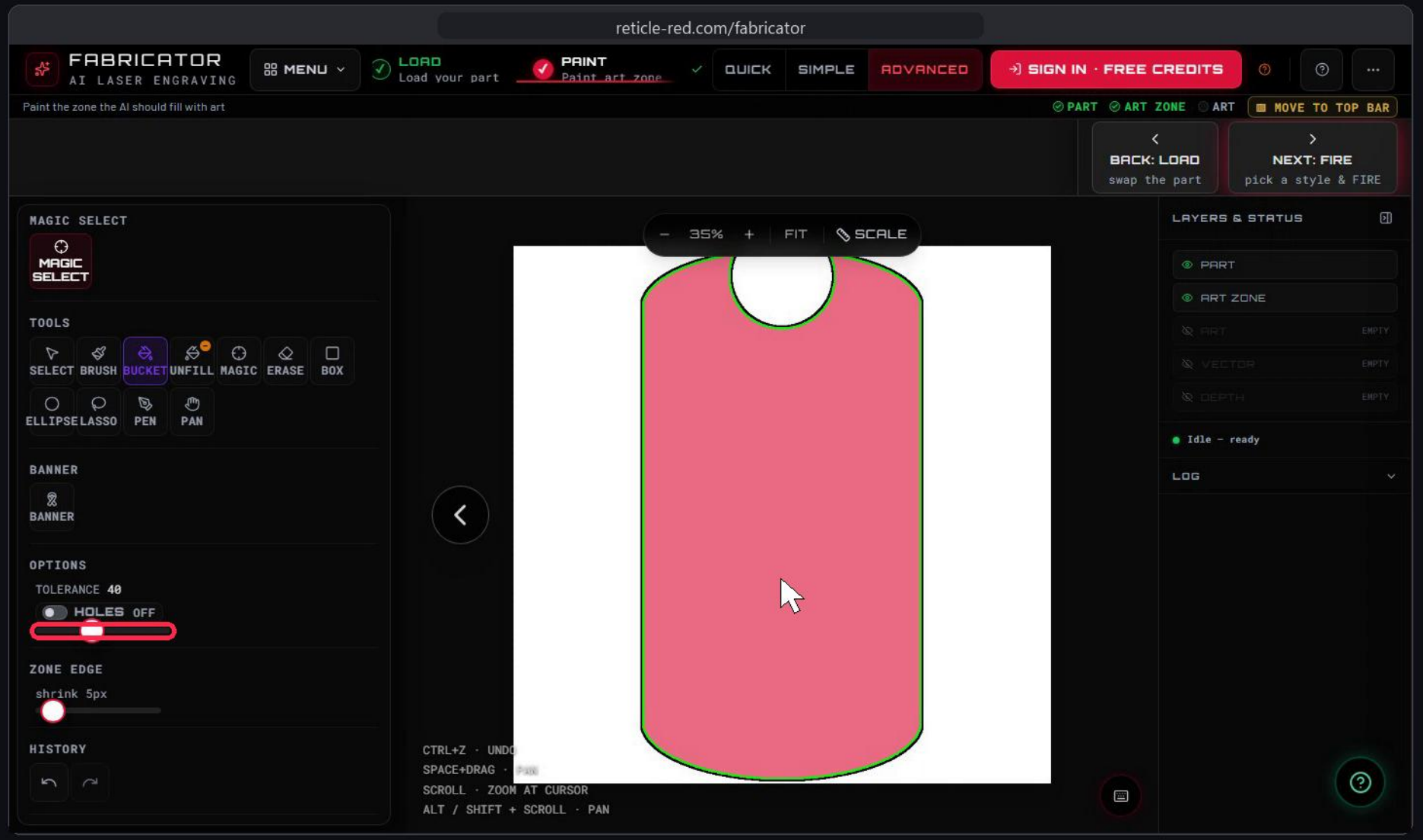


STEP 2 OF 5

Click inside the outline

One click fills that whole enclosed area with the art zone.

Bucket and Unfill — Fill a closed outline with one click



STEP 3 OF 5

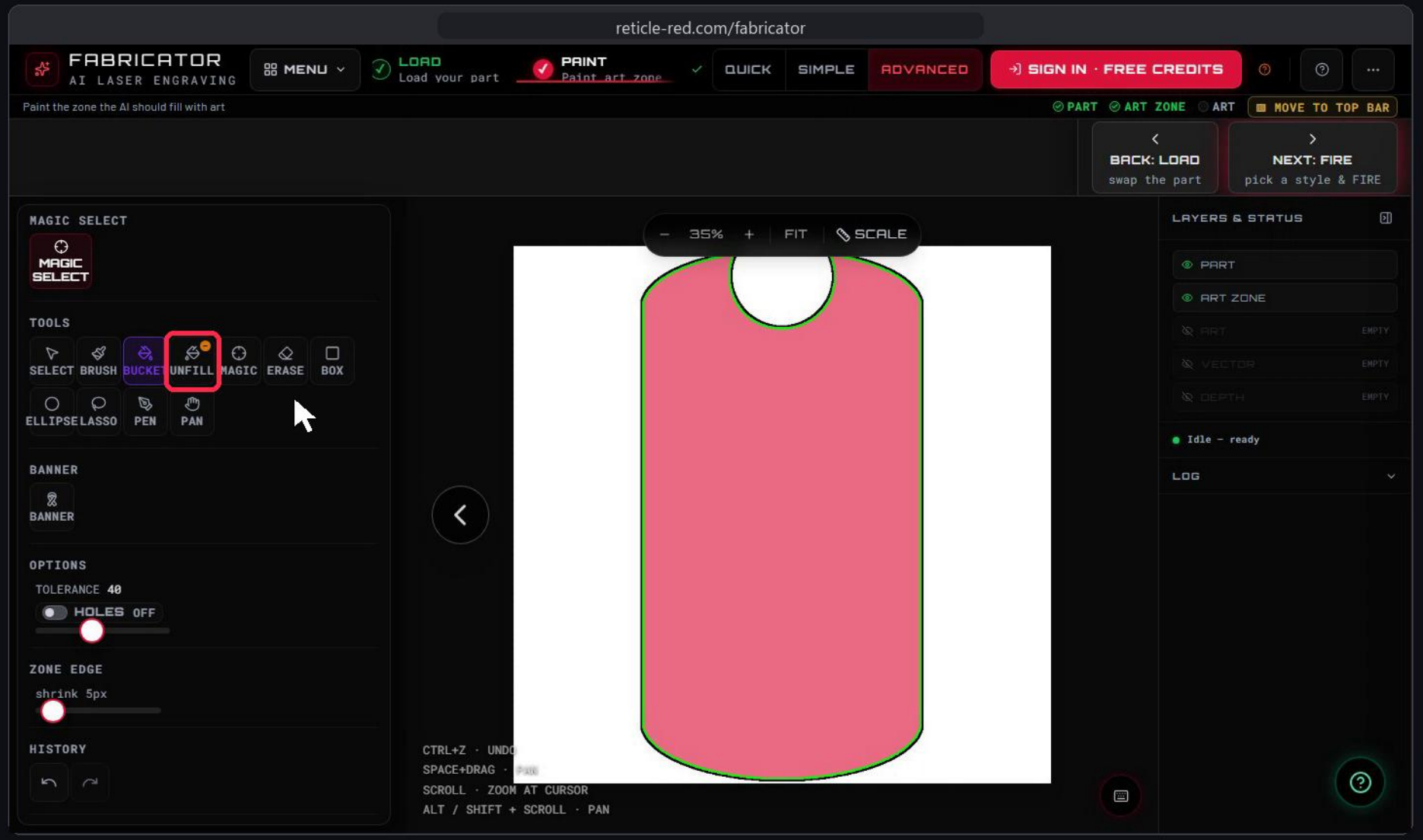
Leaking or stopping short?

TOLERANCE sets how different a pixel can be and still fill. The Holes switch fills enclosed holes too.

CLOSE-UP



Bucket and Unfill — Fill a closed outline with one click

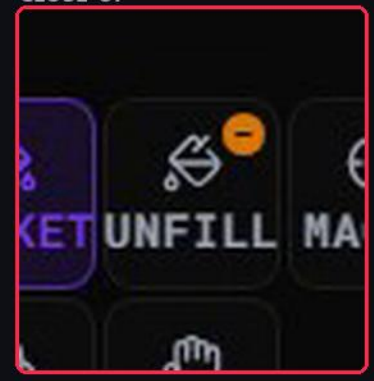


STEP 4 OF 5

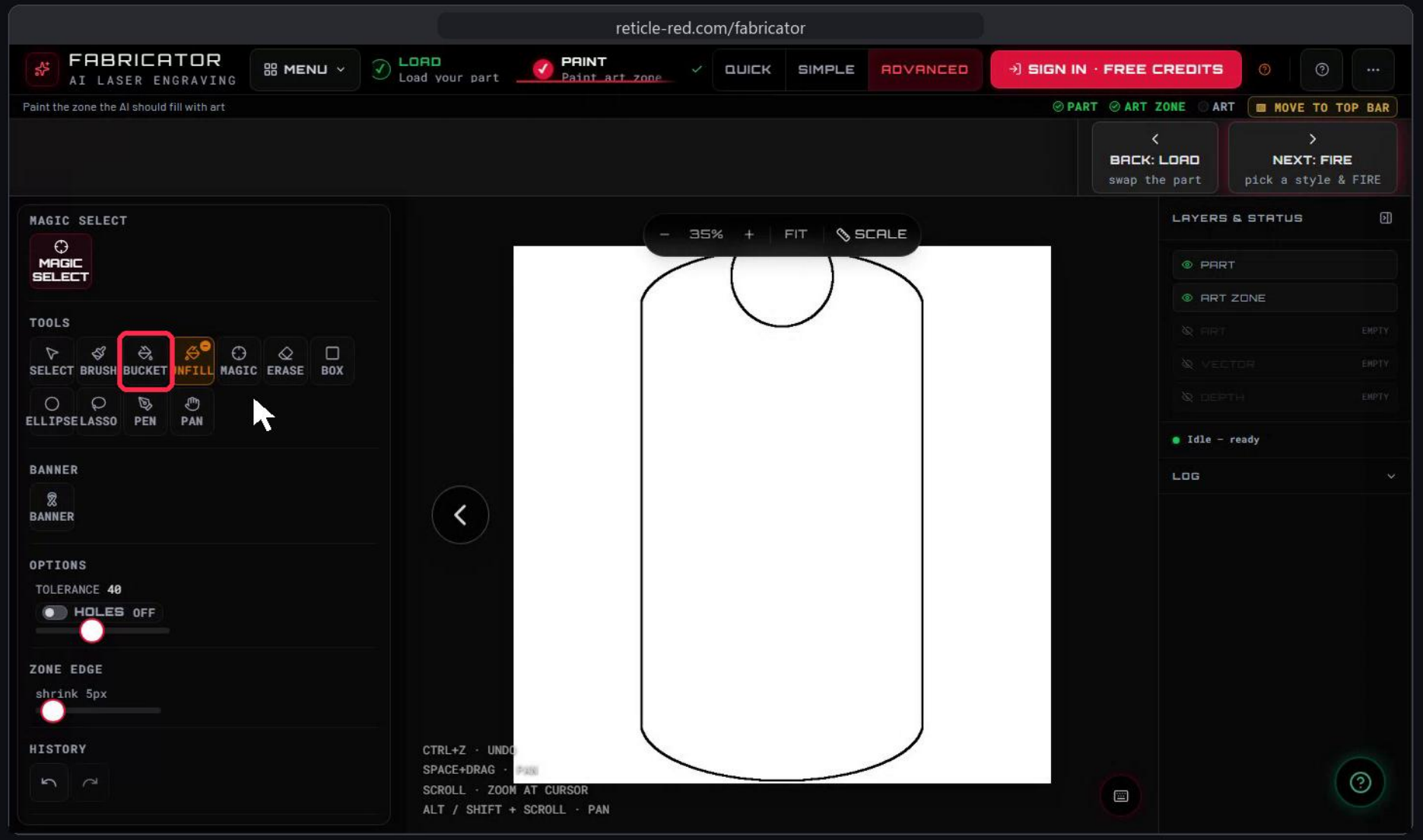
UNFILL clears an area

Click UNFILL, or press X, then click inside the painted area to clear it in one go.

CLOSE-UP



Bucket and Unfill — Fill a closed outline with one click



STEP 5 OF 5

Fill it again

Switch back to BUCKET and click once more.

CLOSE-UP



ART ZONE TUTORIAL 4 OF 9

Box and Ellipse

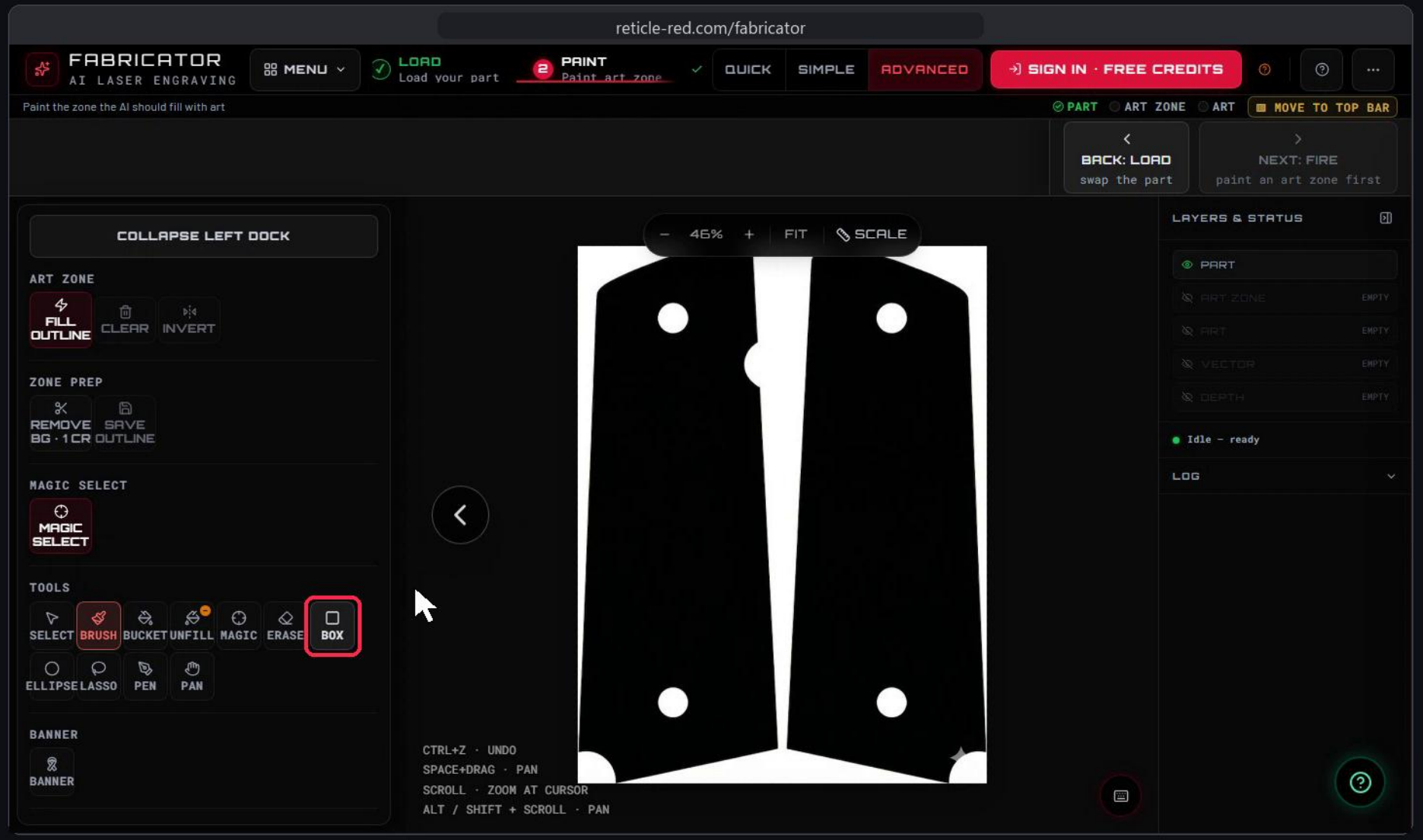
Rectangles, ovals and clean holes

Best for: Plates, tags, panels, cut-outs

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

reticle-red.com/fabricator

Box and Ellipse — Rectangles, ovals and clean holes



STEP 1 OF 5

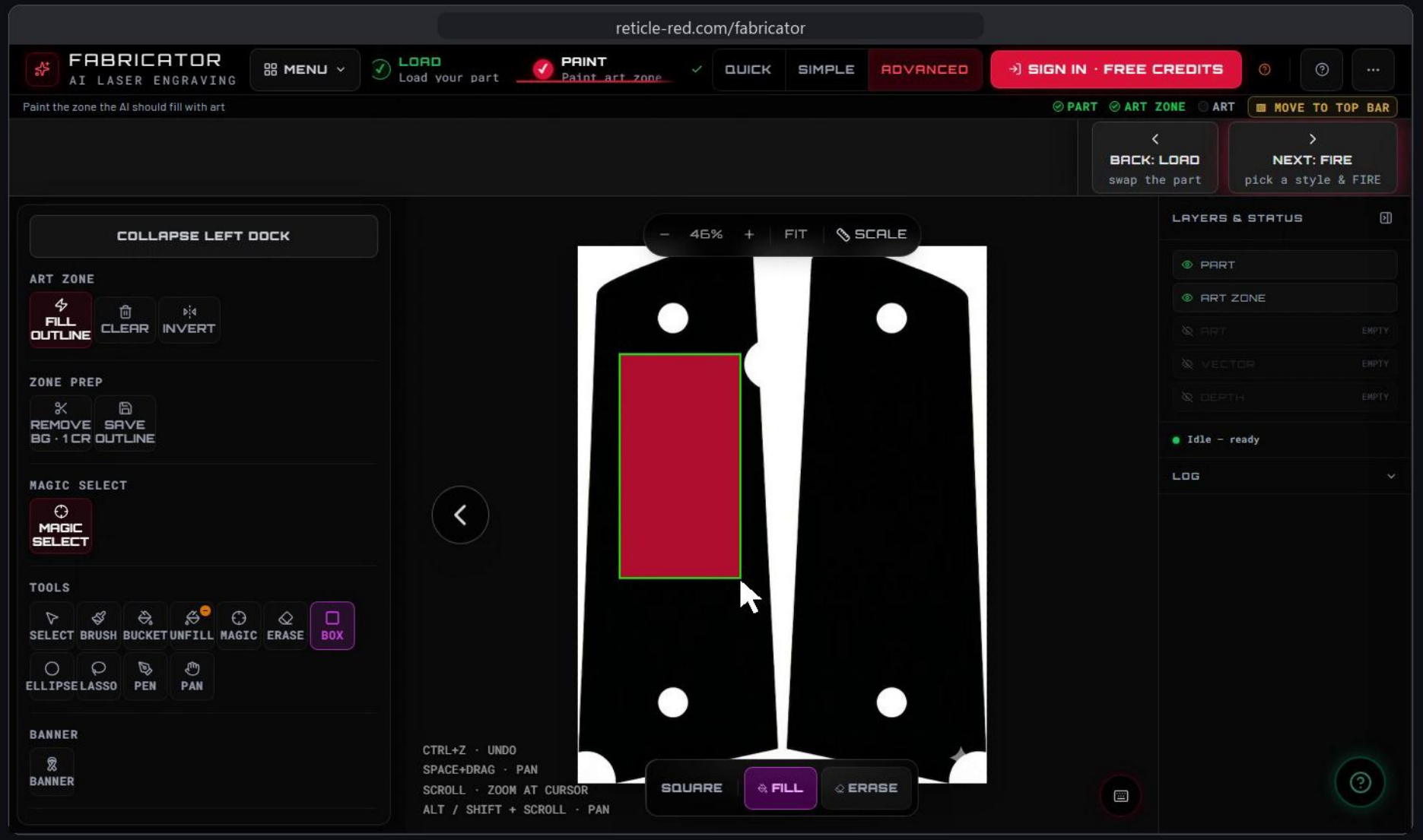
Pick BOX

Click BOX, or press R. Fill mode paints the shape you drag.

CLOSE-UP



Box and Ellipse — Rectangles, ovals and clean holes



STEP 2 OF 5

Drag a rectangle

Drag from one corner to the other.

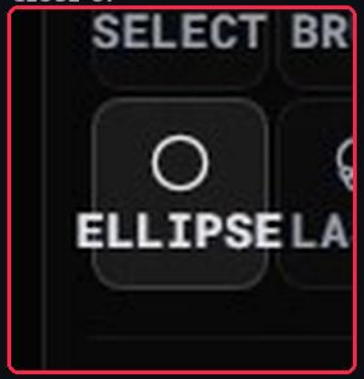
Box and Ellipse — Rectangles, ovals and clean holes

STEP 3 OF 5

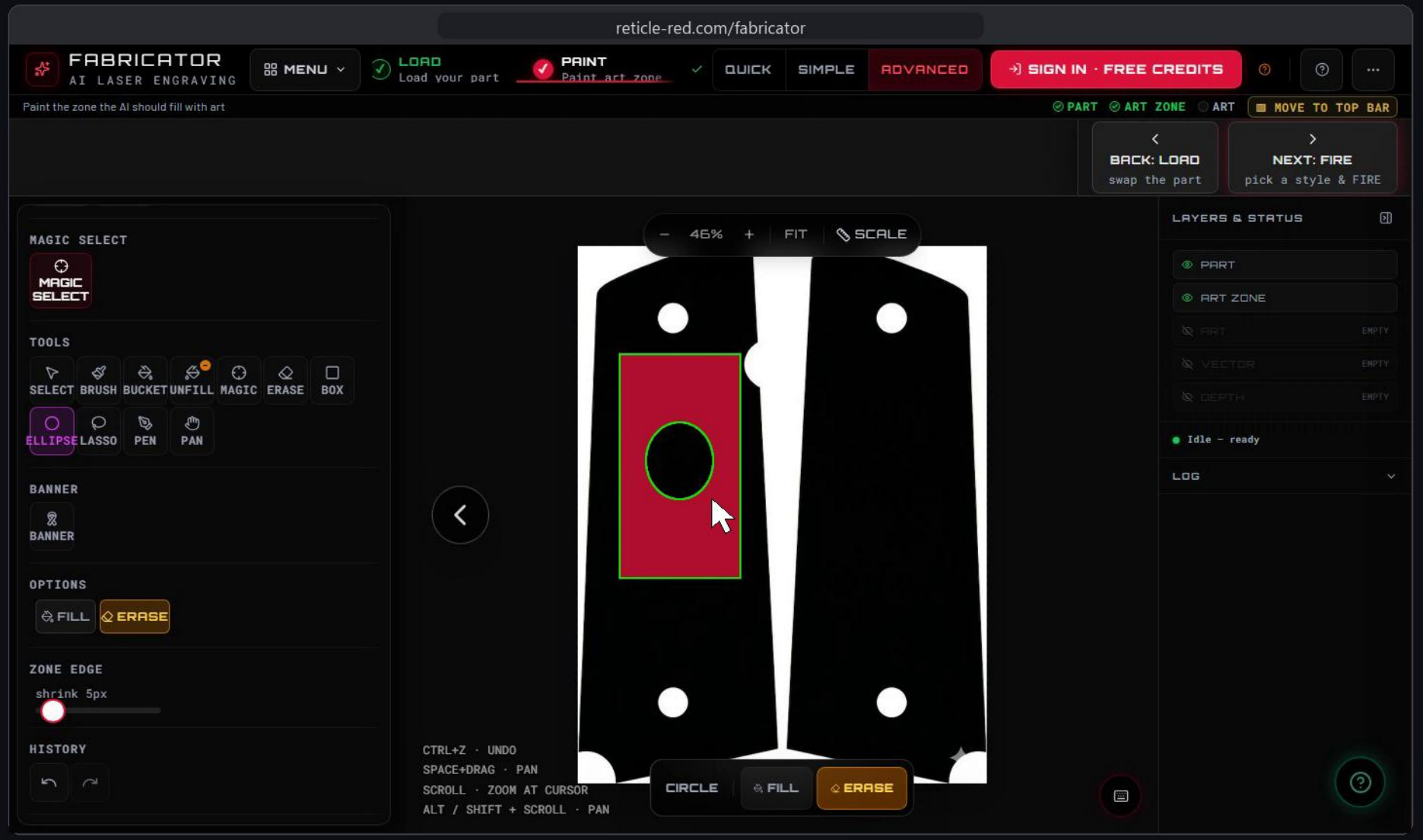
ELLIPSE, in Erase mode

Click ELLIPSE, or press O, then switch the option to Erase to cut a clean hole.

CLOSE-UP



Box and Ellipse — Rectangles, ovals and clean holes

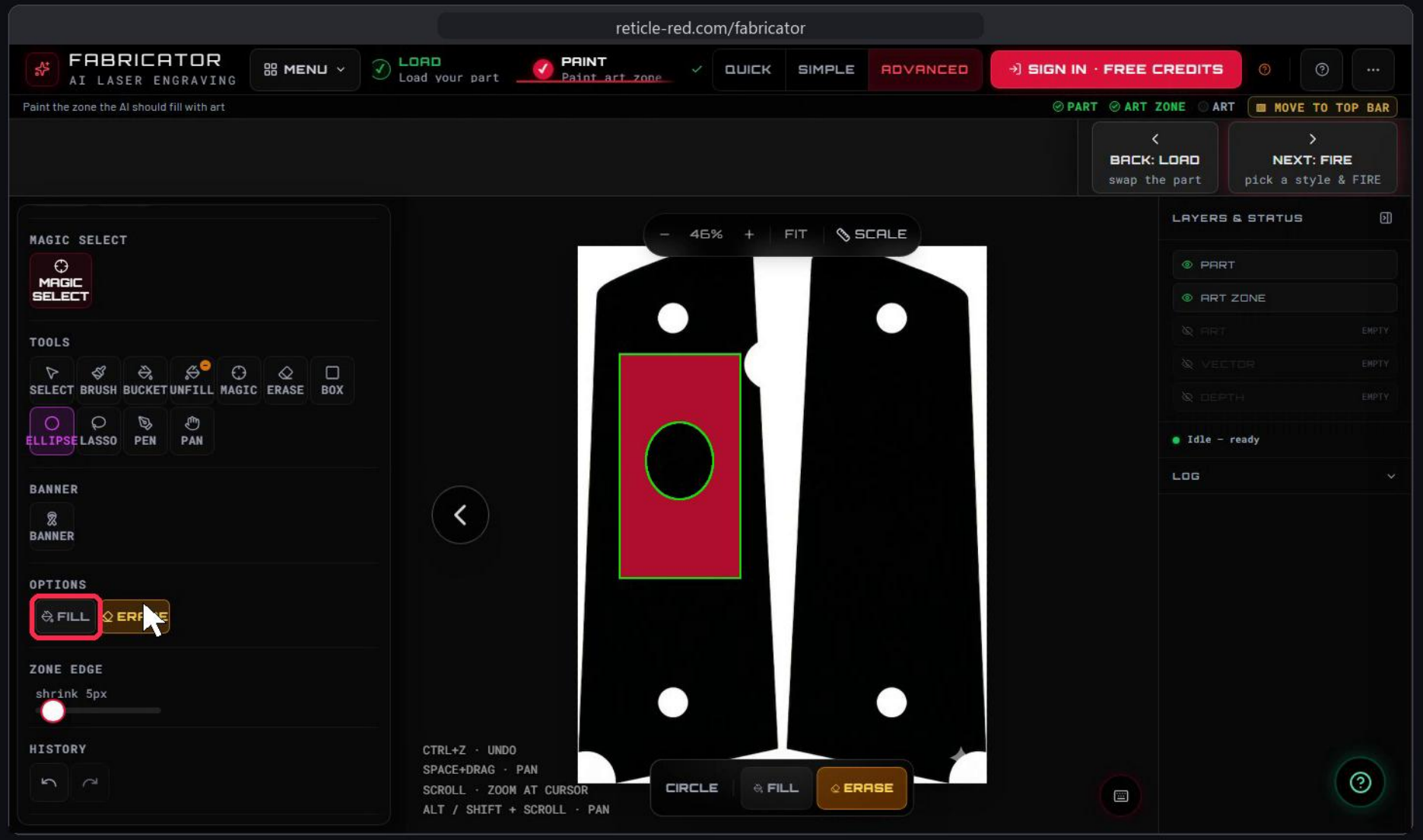


STEP 4 OF 5

Drag to cut

The hole comes out of the zone, so the art will go around it.

Box and Ellipse — Rectangles, ovals and clean holes

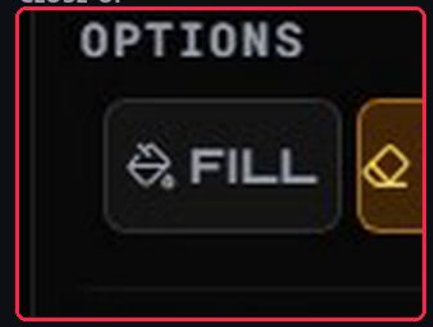


STEP 5 OF 5

Back to Fill for an oval zone

Switch the option to Fill and drag an oval anywhere you want art.

CLOSE-UP



ART ZONE TUTORIAL 5 OF 9

Pen

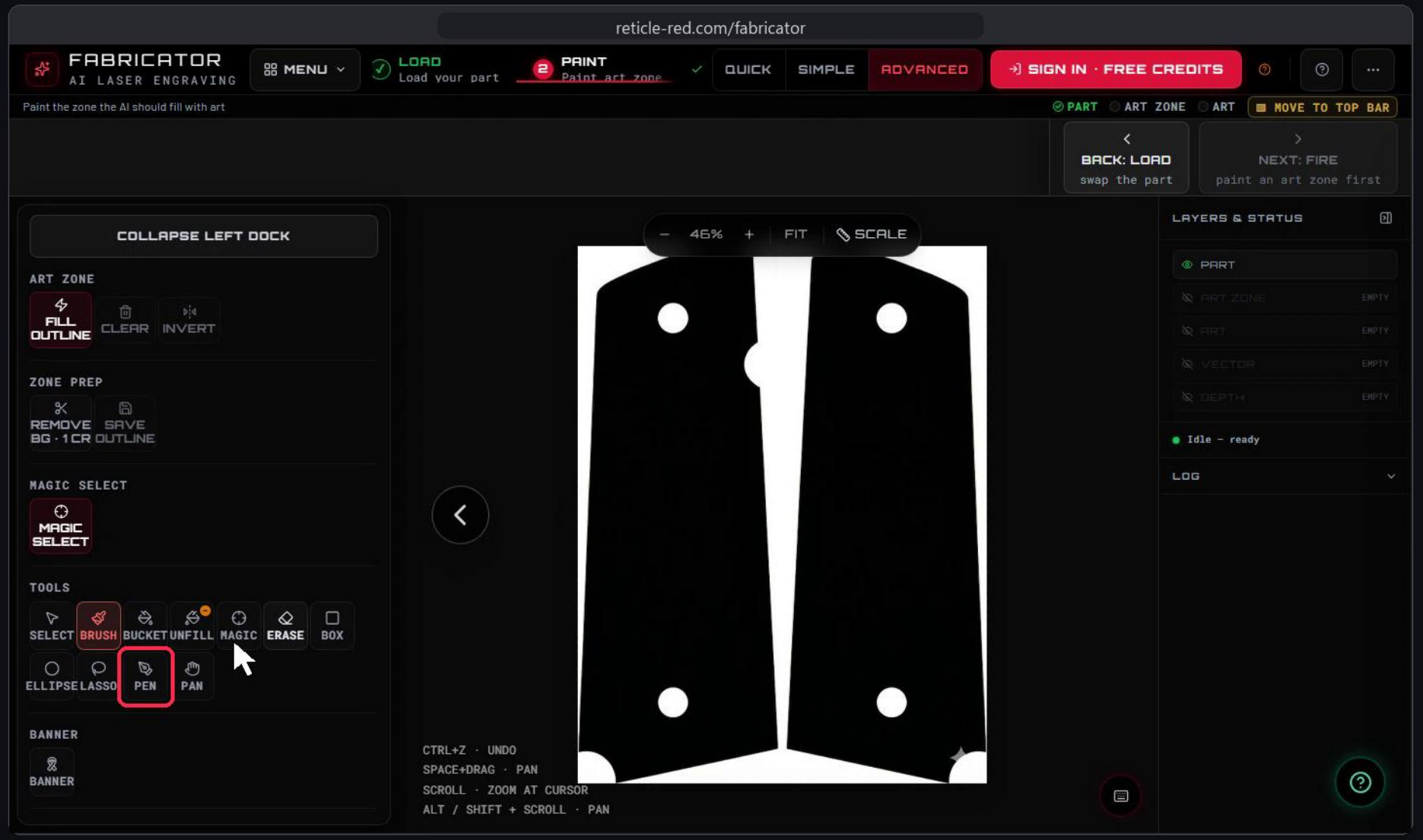
Exact shapes, node by node

Best for: Straight edges and smooth curves you control

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

reticle-red.com/fabricator

Pen — Exact shapes, node by node

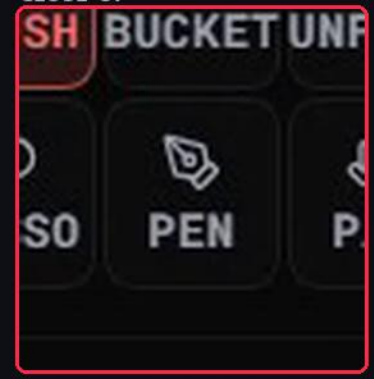


STEP 1 OF 4

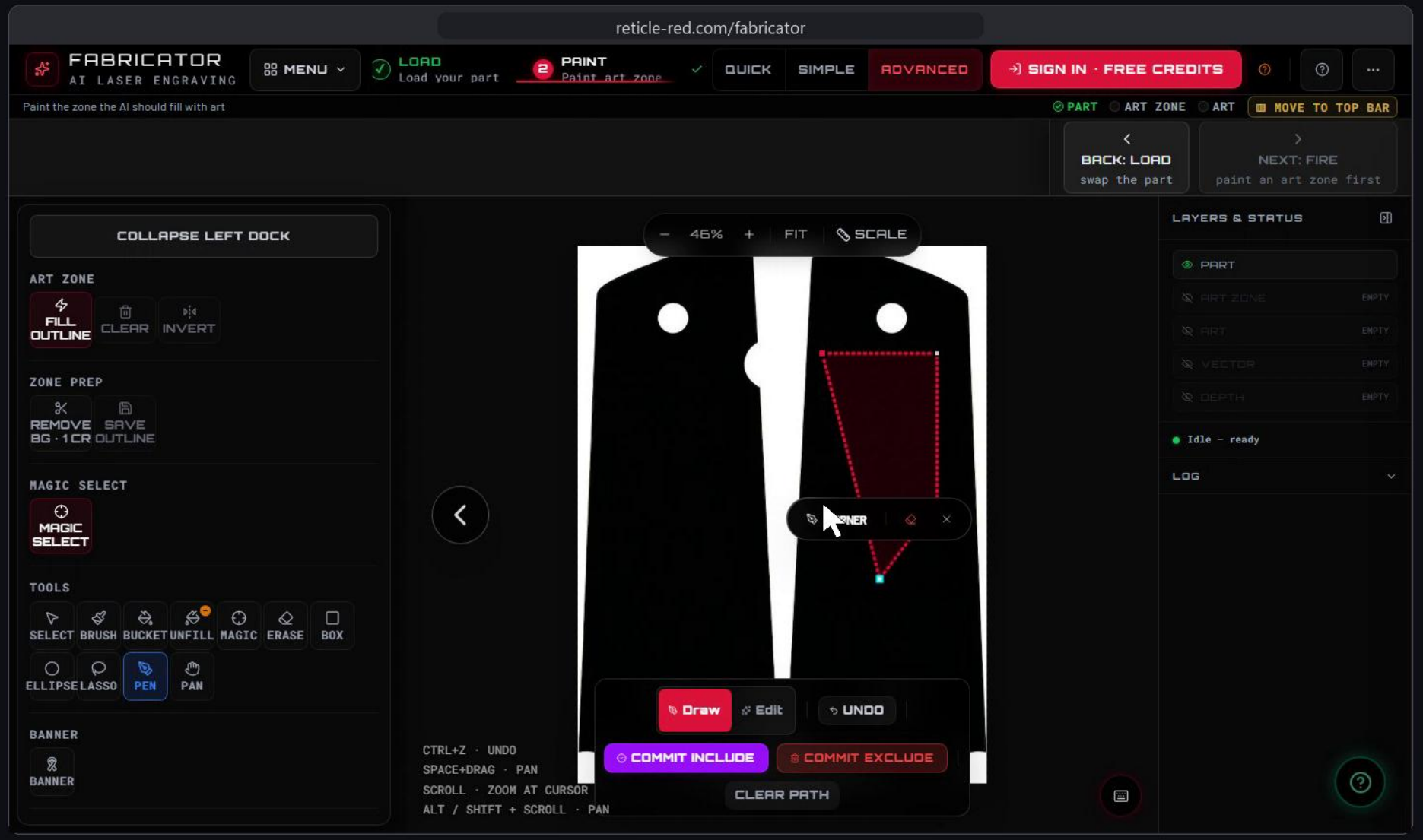
Pick PEN

For exact shapes. Click PEN, or press P.

CLOSE-UP



Pen — Exact shapes, node by node

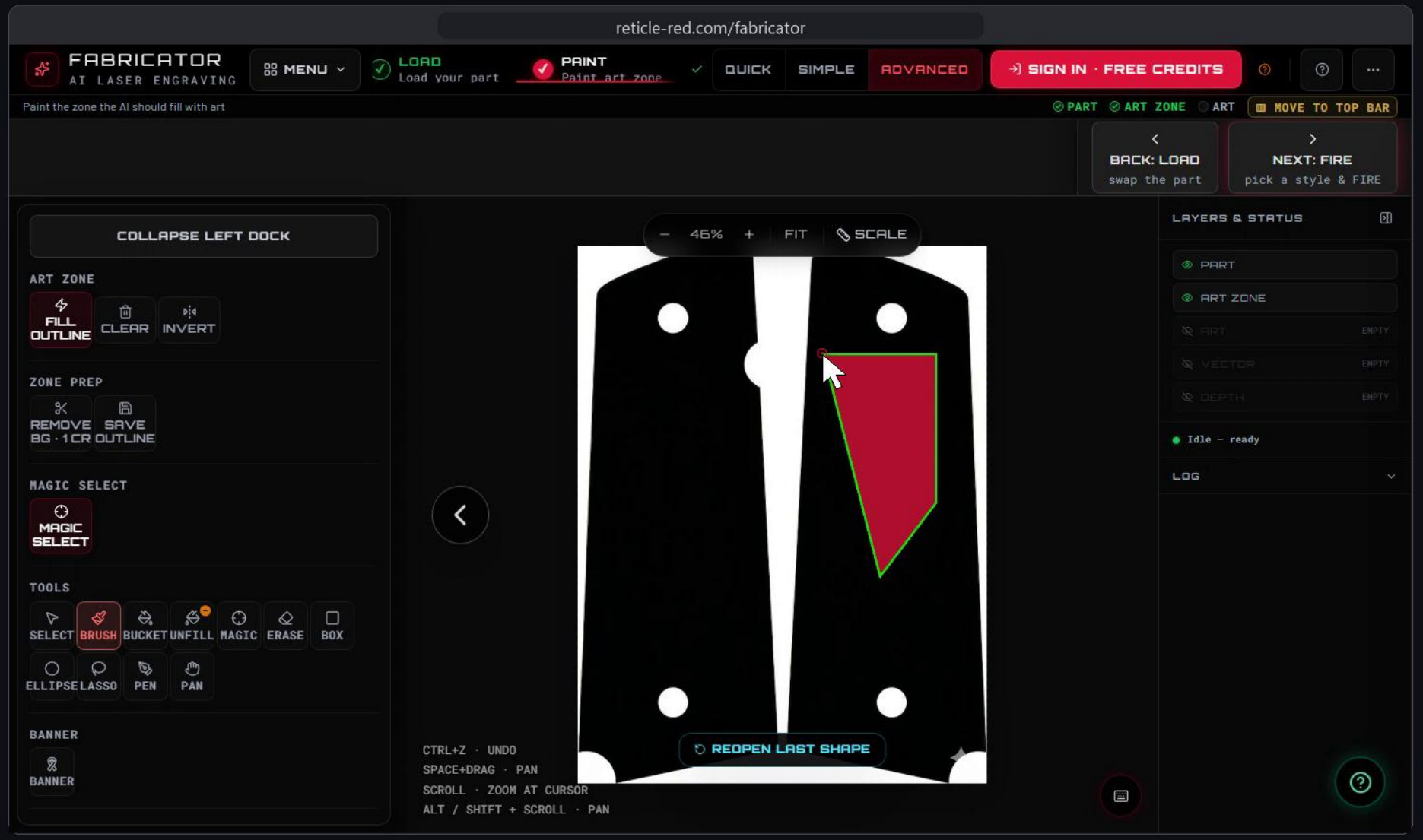


STEP 2 OF 4

Click to place corners

Each click adds a node. Click and drag to bend the line into a curve.

Pen — Exact shapes, node by node



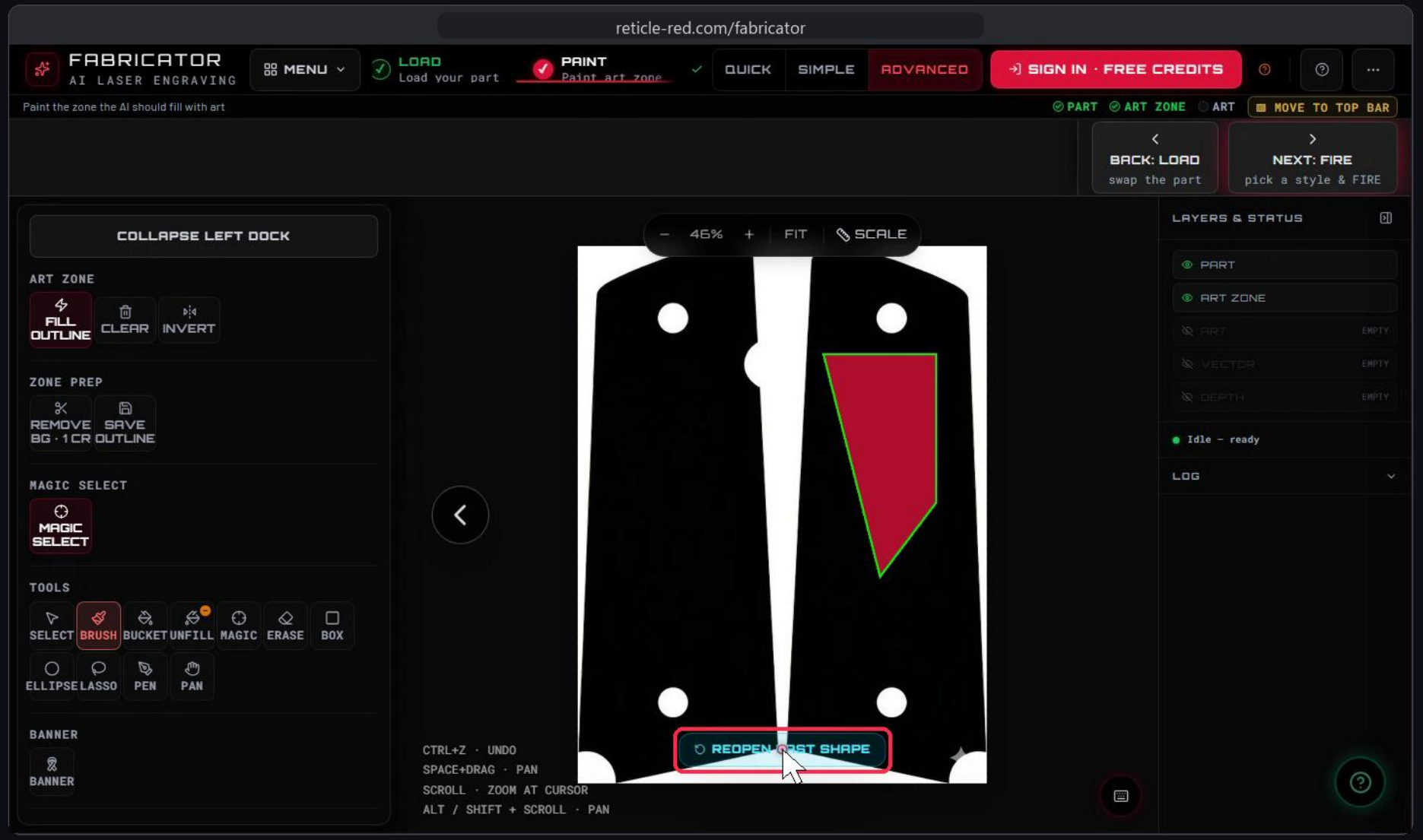
STEP 3 OF 4

Click the first node to close

The shape closes and becomes art zone. Enter or a double-click does the same.

Shift+Enter, or COMMIT EXCLUDE, cuts the shape out instead.

Pen — Exact shapes, node by node

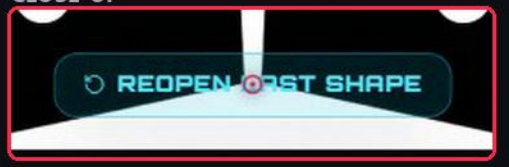


STEP 4 OF 4

Change your mind?

REOPEN LAST SHAPE brings the nodes back so you can move them and commit again.

CLOSE-UP



ART ZONE TUTORIAL 6 OF 9

Part Templates

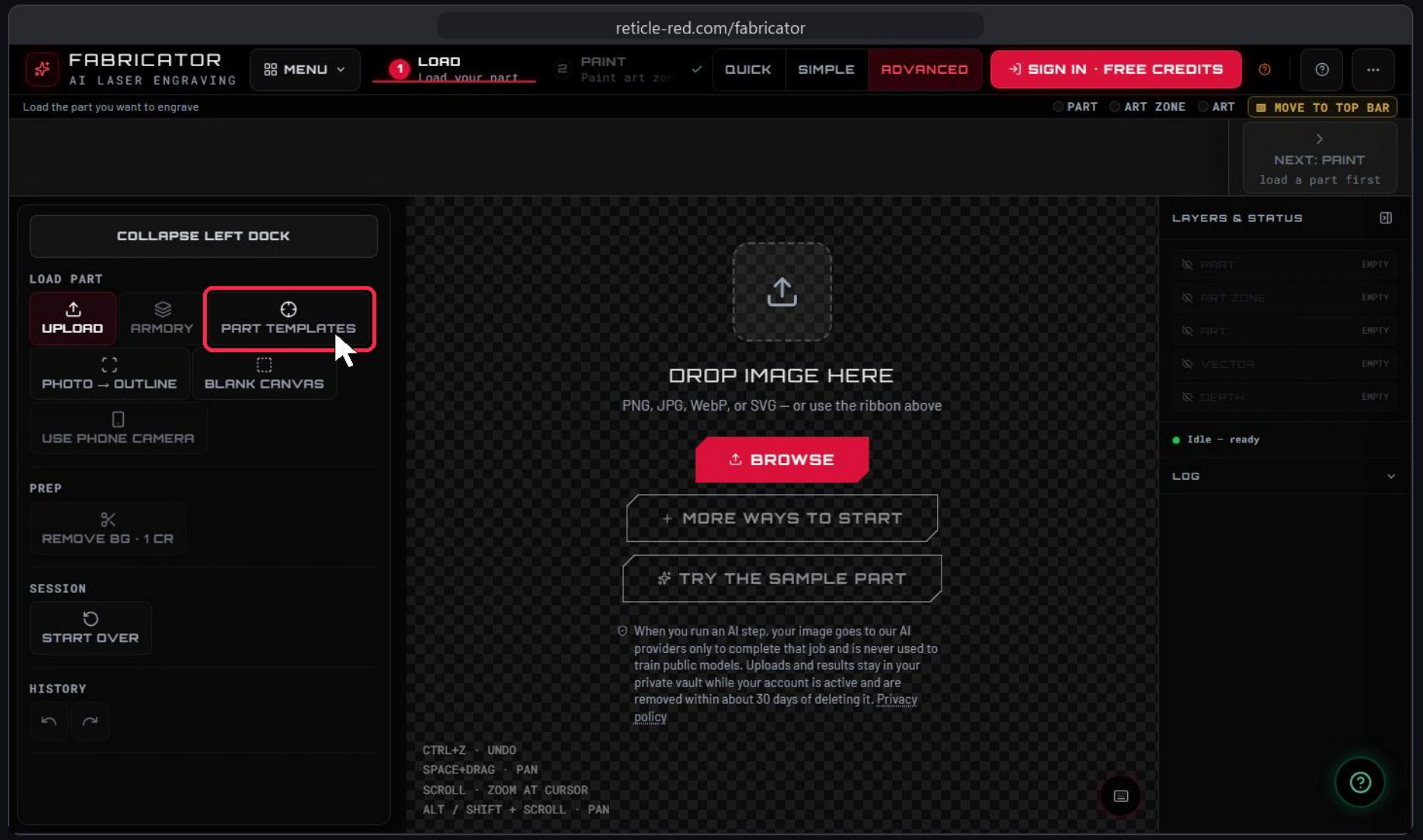
Start from a real part at true size

Best for: Grips, magazines, knives, EDC

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

reticle-red.com/fabricator

Part Templates — Start from a real part at true size

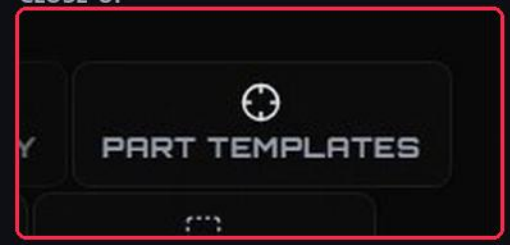


STEP 1 OF 4

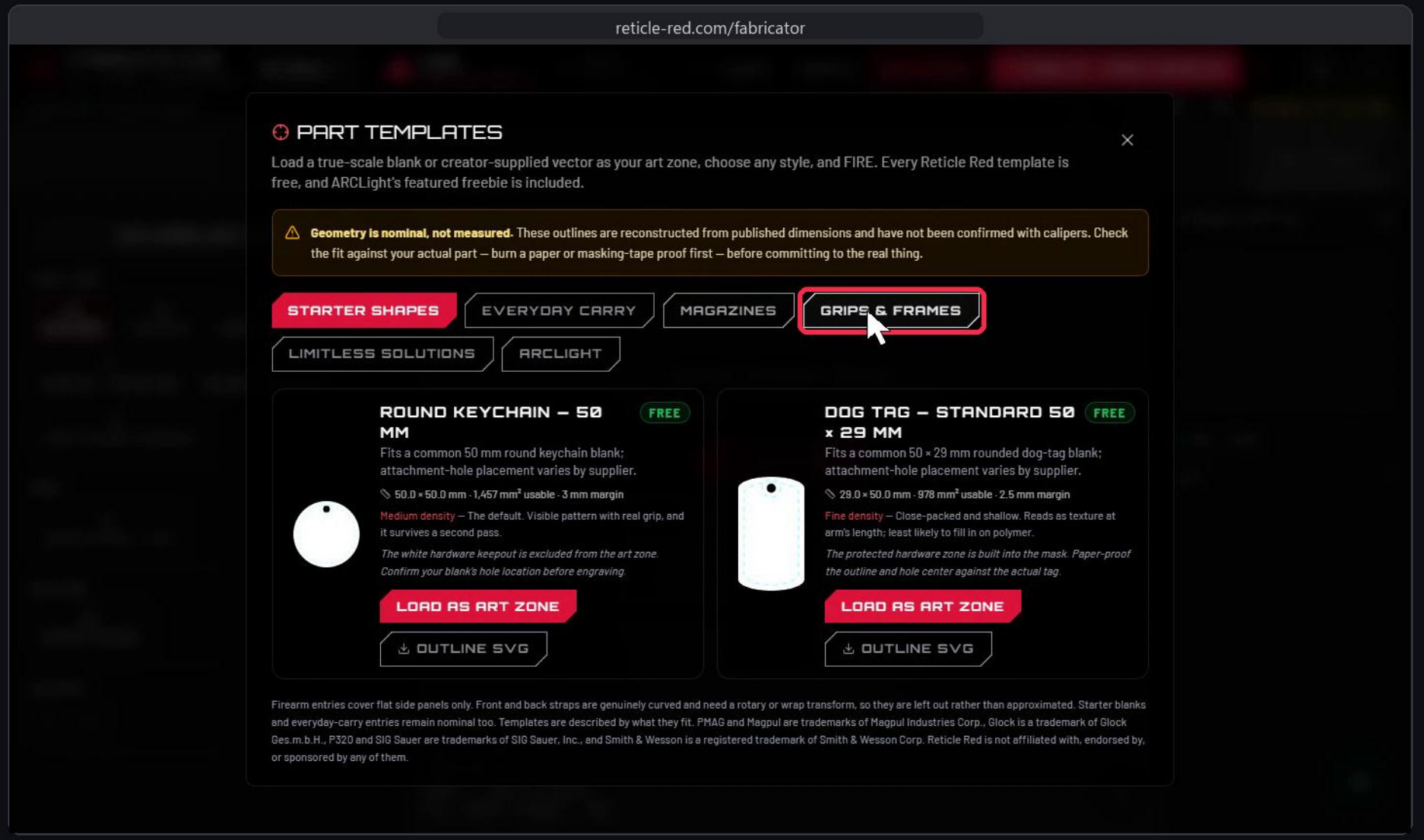
Open PART TEMPLATES

On the LOAD step, click PART TEMPLATES. No sign-in needed.

CLOSE-UP



Part Templates — Start from a real part at true size



STEP 2 OF 4

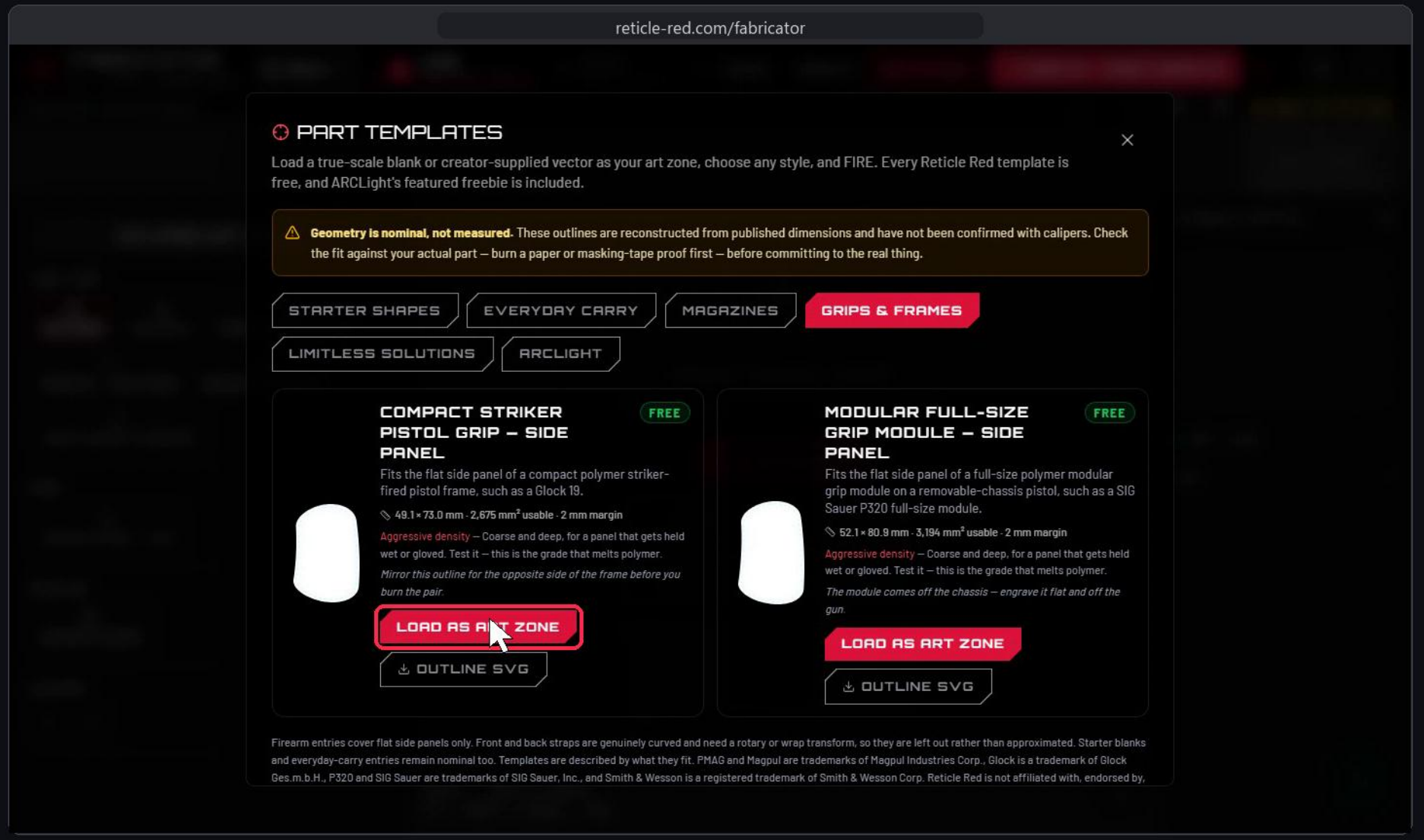
Pick a family

Starter Shapes, Everyday Carry, Magazines, Grips & Frames.

CLOSE-UP



Part Templates — Start from a real part at true size



STEP 3 OF 4

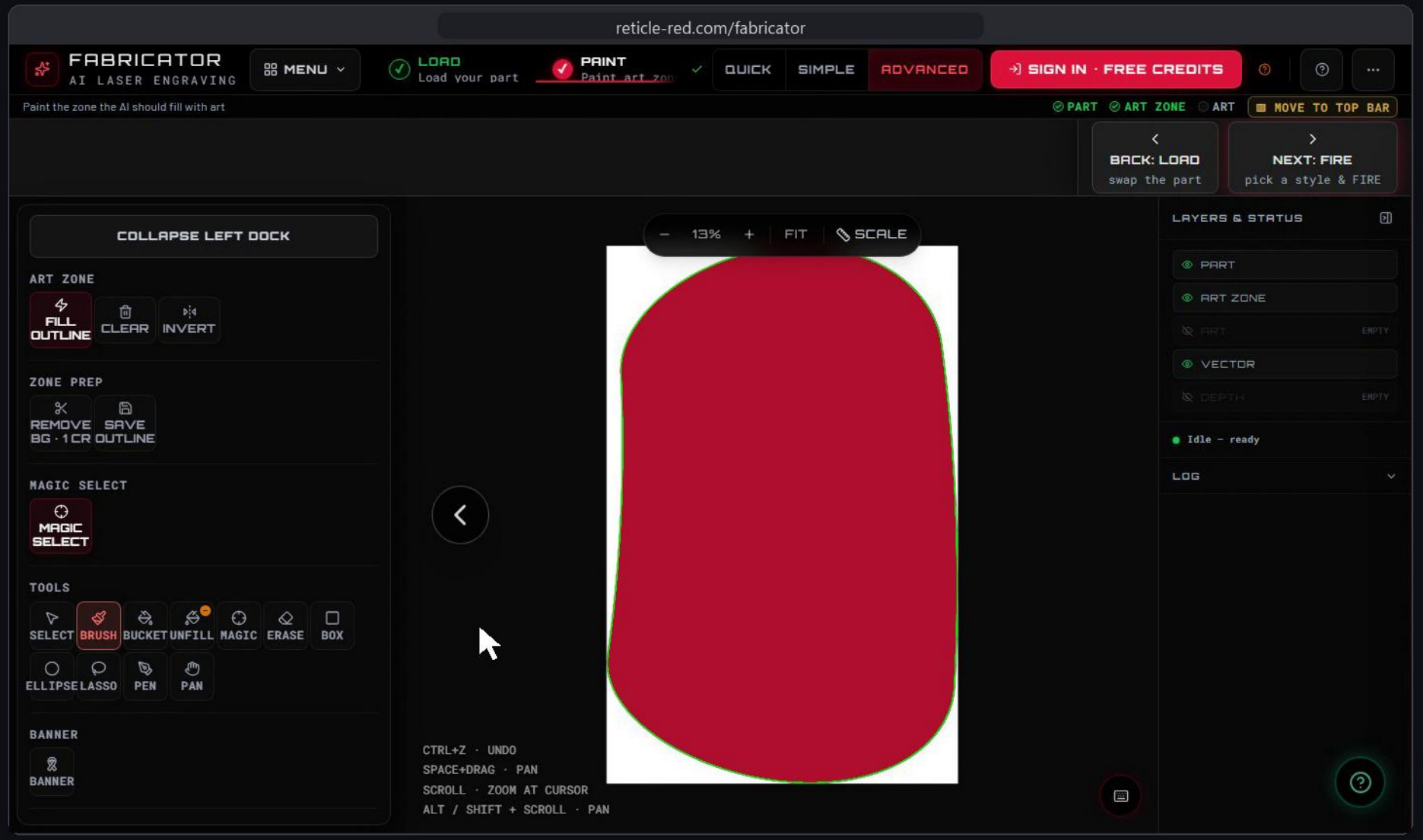
LOAD AS ART ZONE

Each template is a real part at its true size. One click loads it with the art zone already painted.

CLOSE-UP



Part Templates — Start from a real part at true size



STEP 4 OF 4

Ready to fire

The zone is set and Part Size is filled in, so downloads open at real size.

ART ZONE TUTORIAL 7 OF 9

Photo to Outline

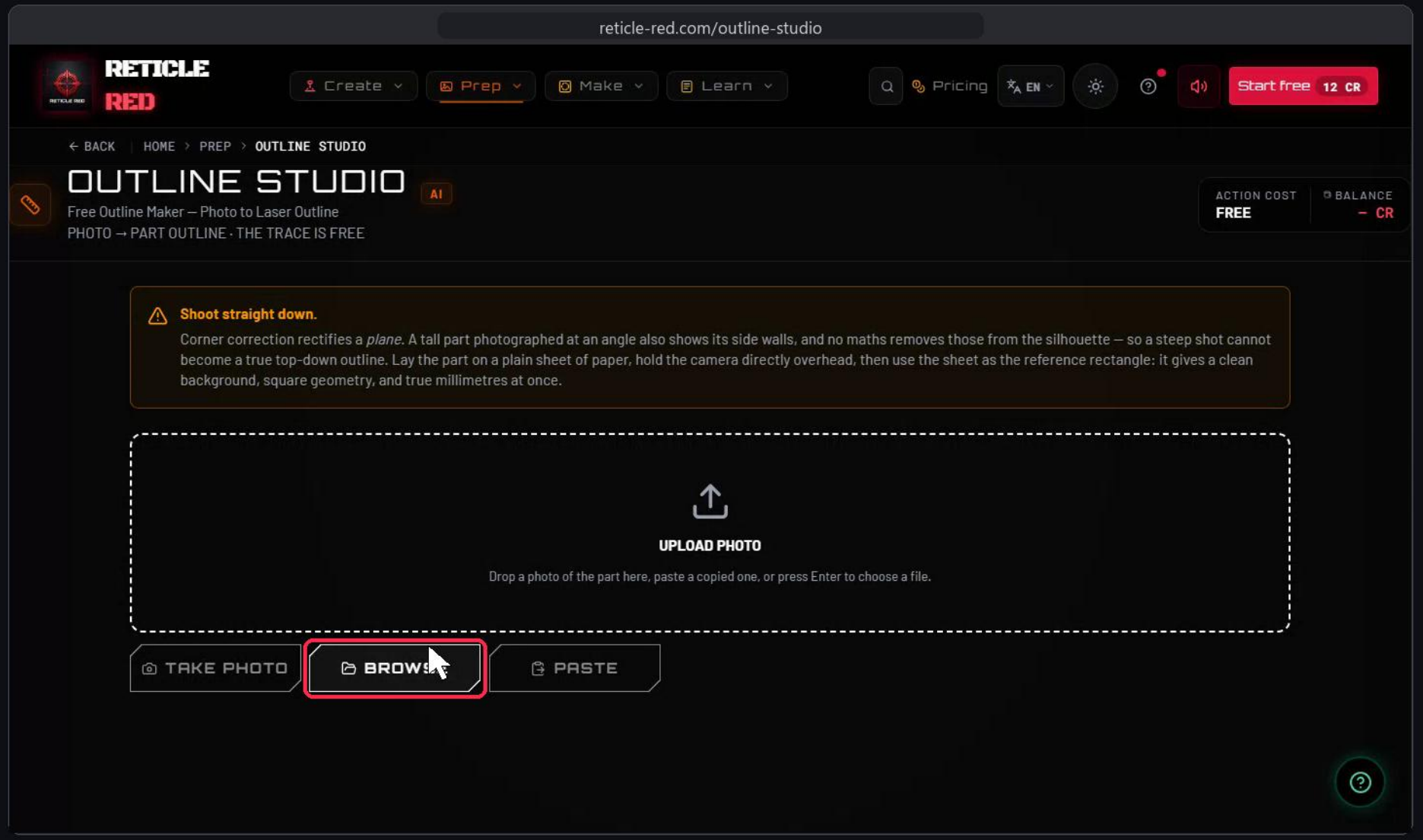
Turn a photo of your part into an outline

Best for: Parts you only have in hand

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

reticle-red.com/fabricator

Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



STEP 1 OF 7

Open OUTLINE STUDIO

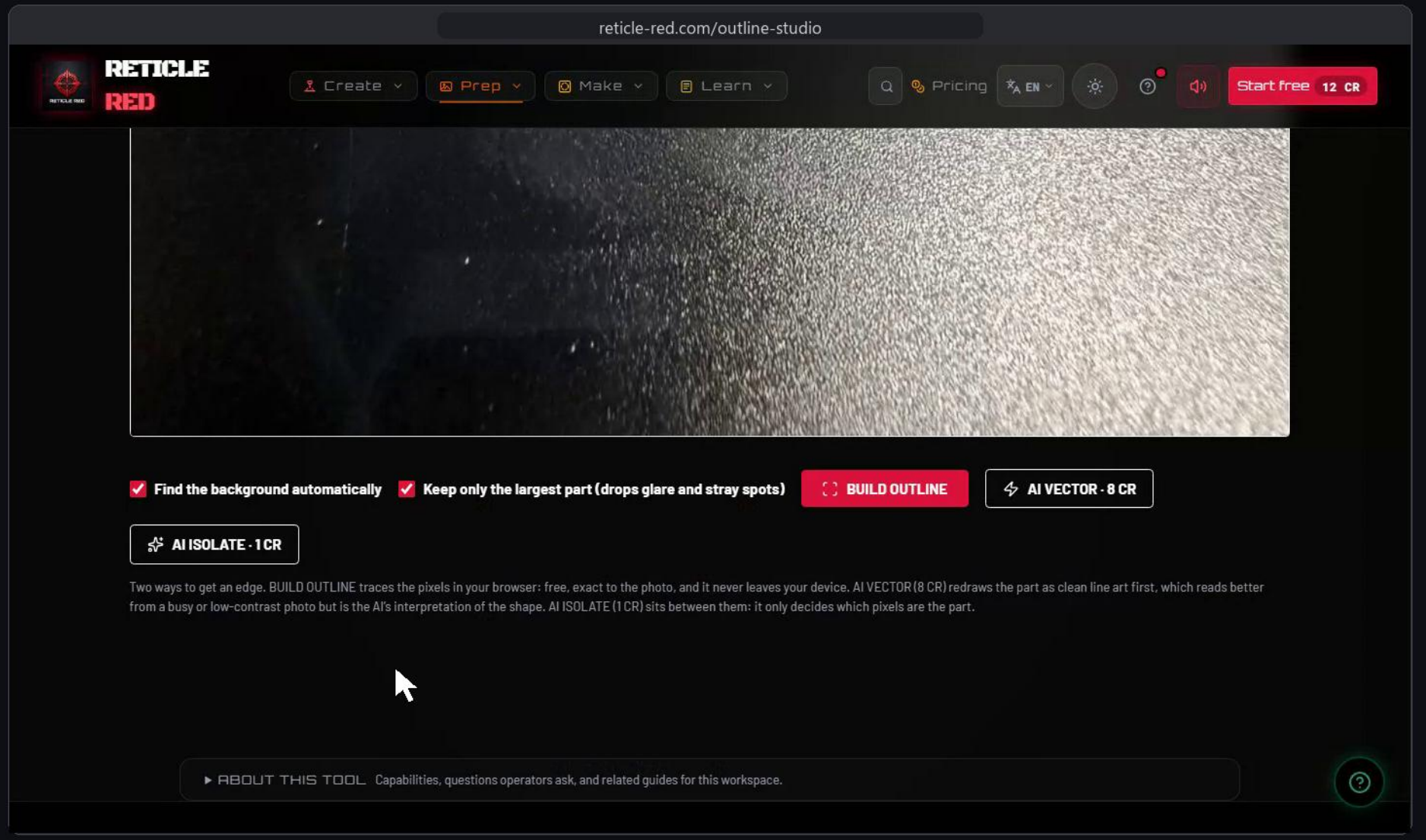
Prep menu, then Outline Studio. In the Fabricator it is PHOTO → OUTLINE on the LOAD step.

Click BROWSE and pick a photo of your part. The trace is free.

CLOSE-UP



Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



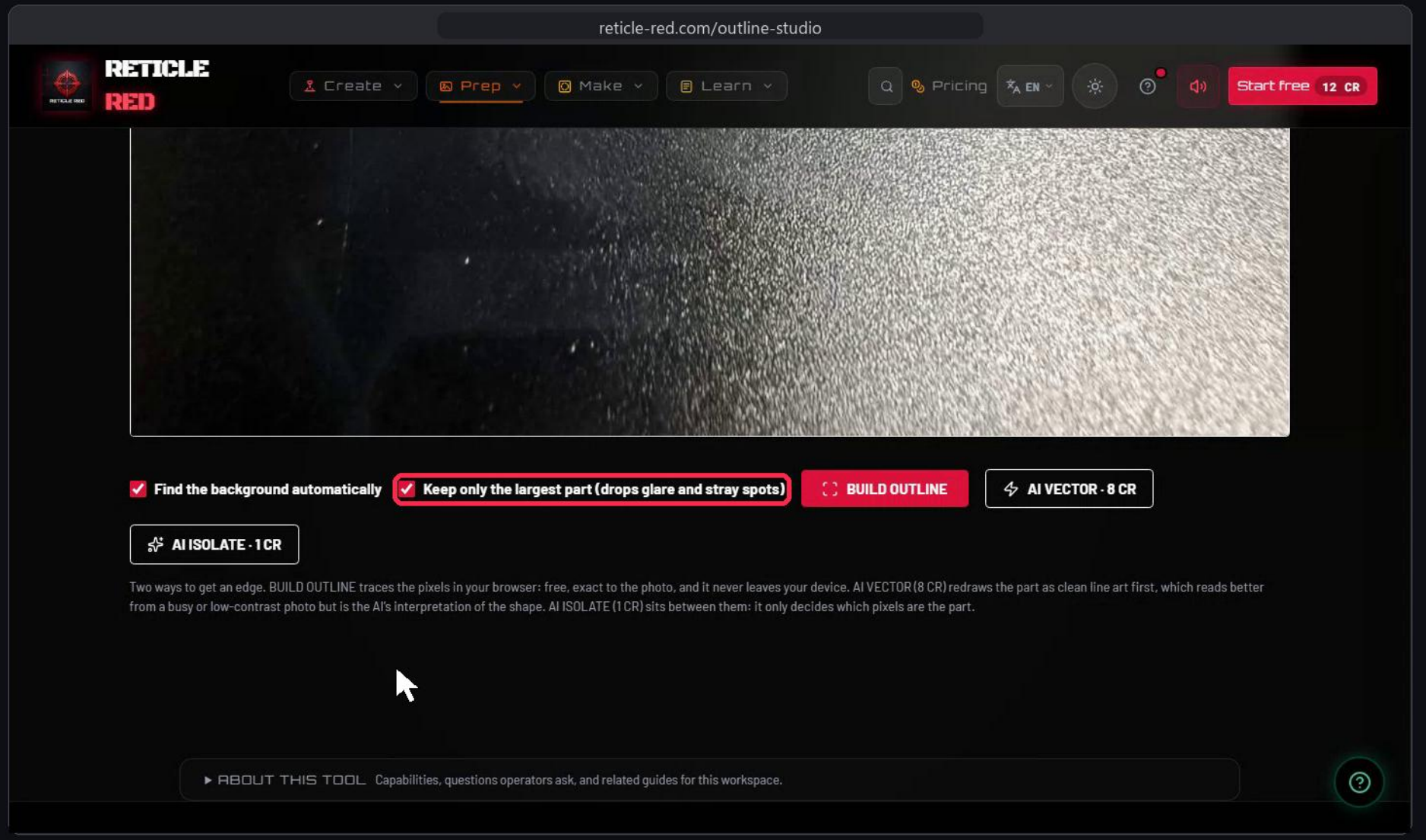
STEP 2 OF 7

Photo loaded: shoot straight down

Best results: the part on a plain, contrasting background, camera right overhead.

Lay it on a sheet of paper and use the sheet as the reference to get true millimetres too.

Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



STEP 3 OF 7

Keep only the largest part

On by default: glare and stray spots on the background are dropped, and real cut-outs in the part stay.

Untick it when your photo holds several parts.

CLOSE-UP

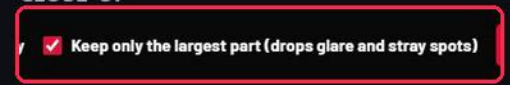
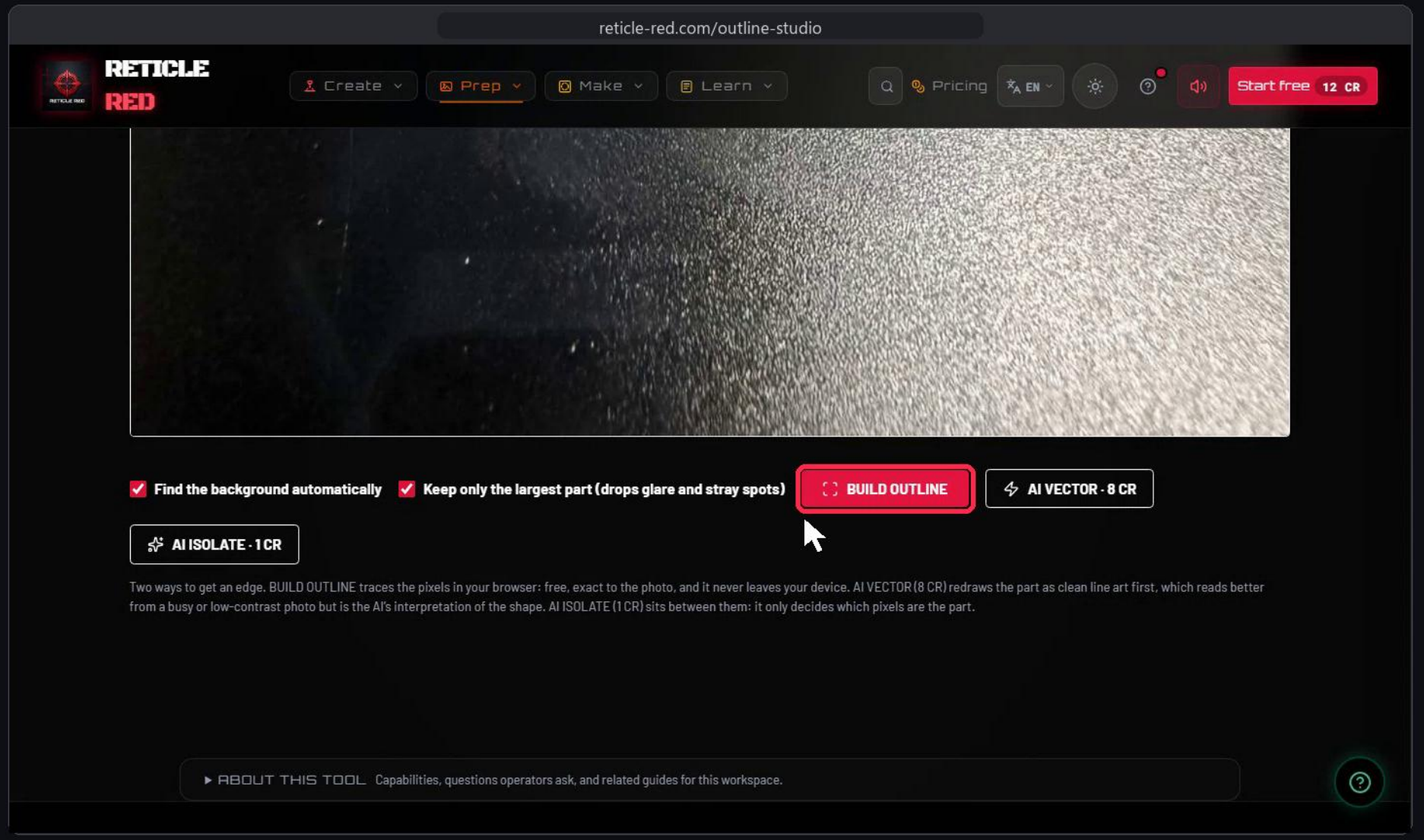


Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



STEP 4 OF 7

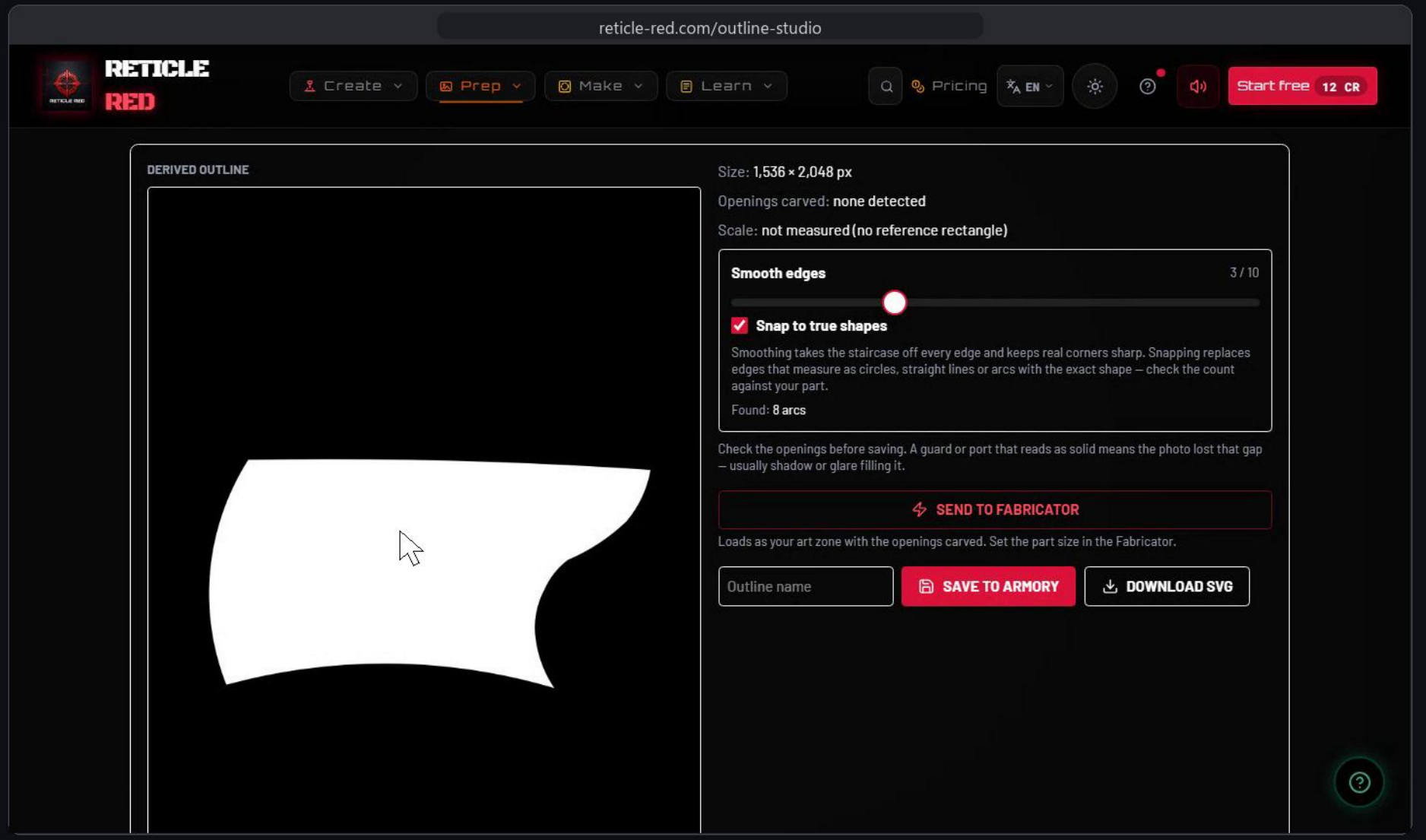
Click BUILD OUTLINE

It finds the part's edge and holes right in your browser. Free.

CLOSE-UP



Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



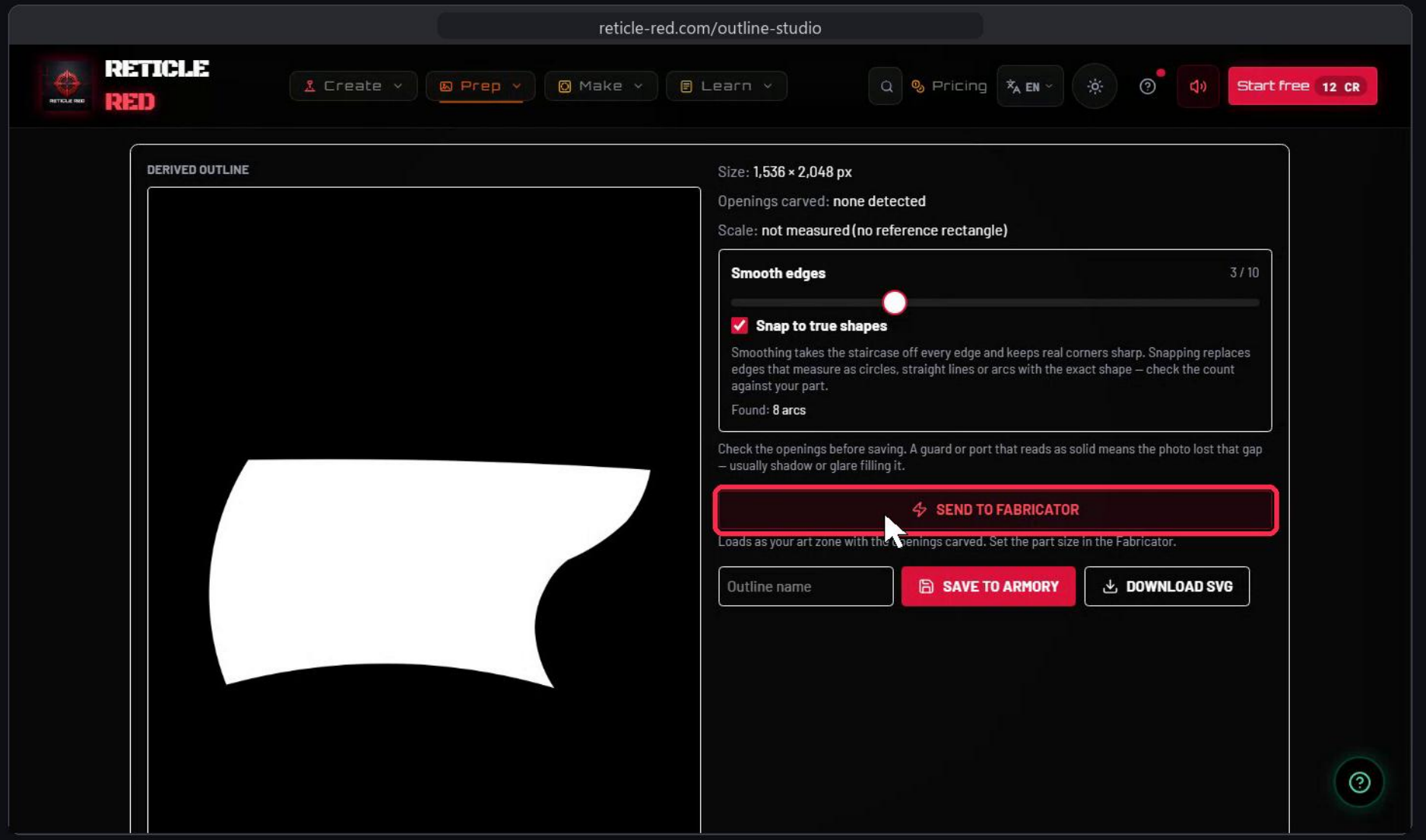
STEP 5 OF 7

Check what it found

White is your part: just the bolster. The bright glare patch on the mat was left out.

Pin holes this small (about 1 mm) are too fine for a photo trace: cut them in the Fabricator with ELLIPSE in Erase mode.

Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



STEP 6 OF 7

SEND TO FABRICATOR

Smooth edges and Snap to true shapes clean up the line. Then send it.

It opens in the Fabricator as your art zone.

CLOSE-UP

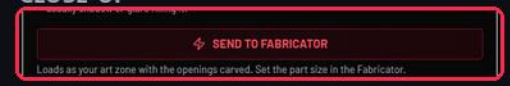
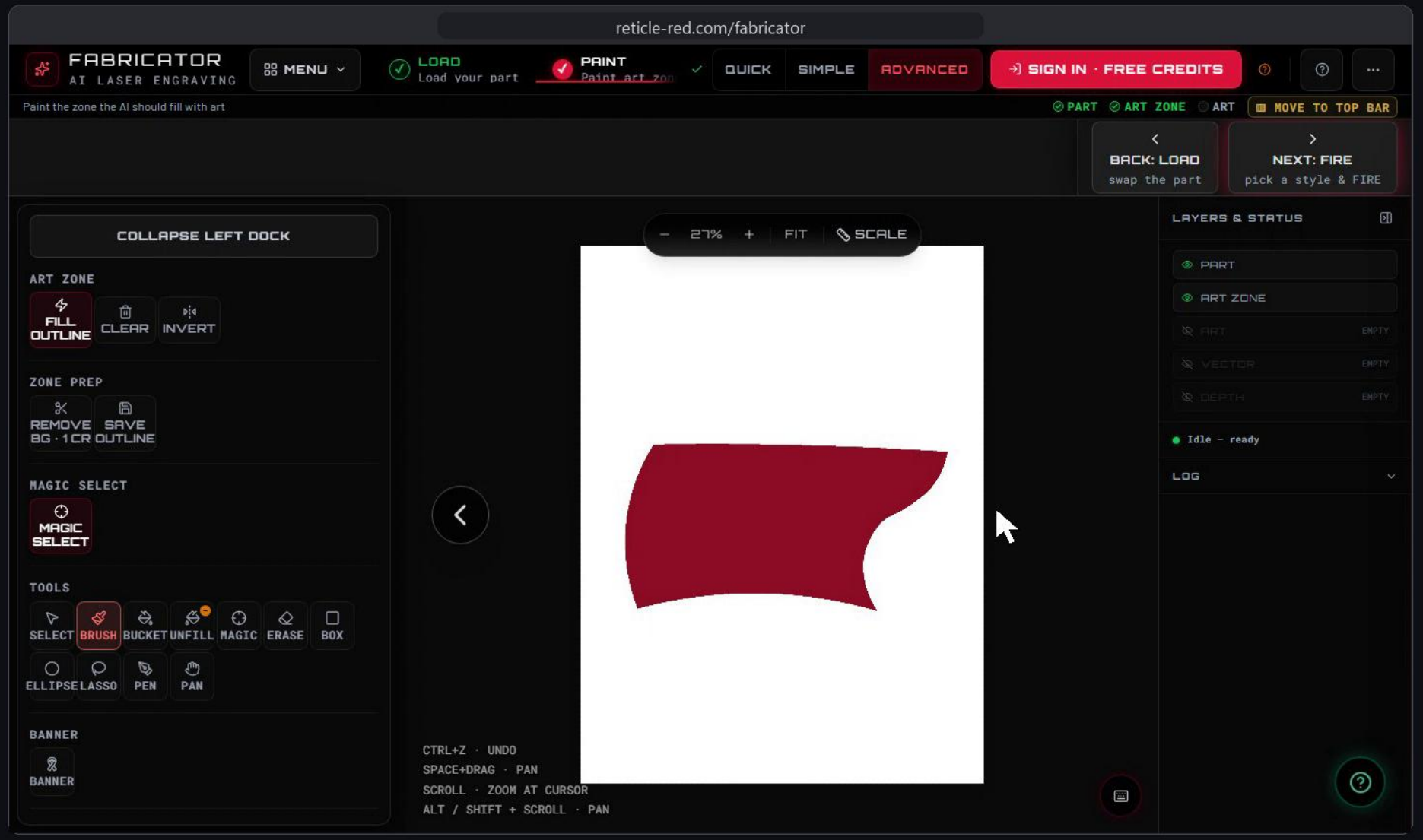


Photo to Outline — Turn a photo of your part into an outline



STEP 7 OF 7

Ready for FIRE

A clean art zone of the real part.

Type the part's length in Part Size: on a photo it measures your art zone, so the download comes out that size.

ART ZONE TUTORIAL 8 OF 9

Trace a Photo with Pen

A manual art zone on a real part

Best for: Photos with glare, shadows or busy backgrounds

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

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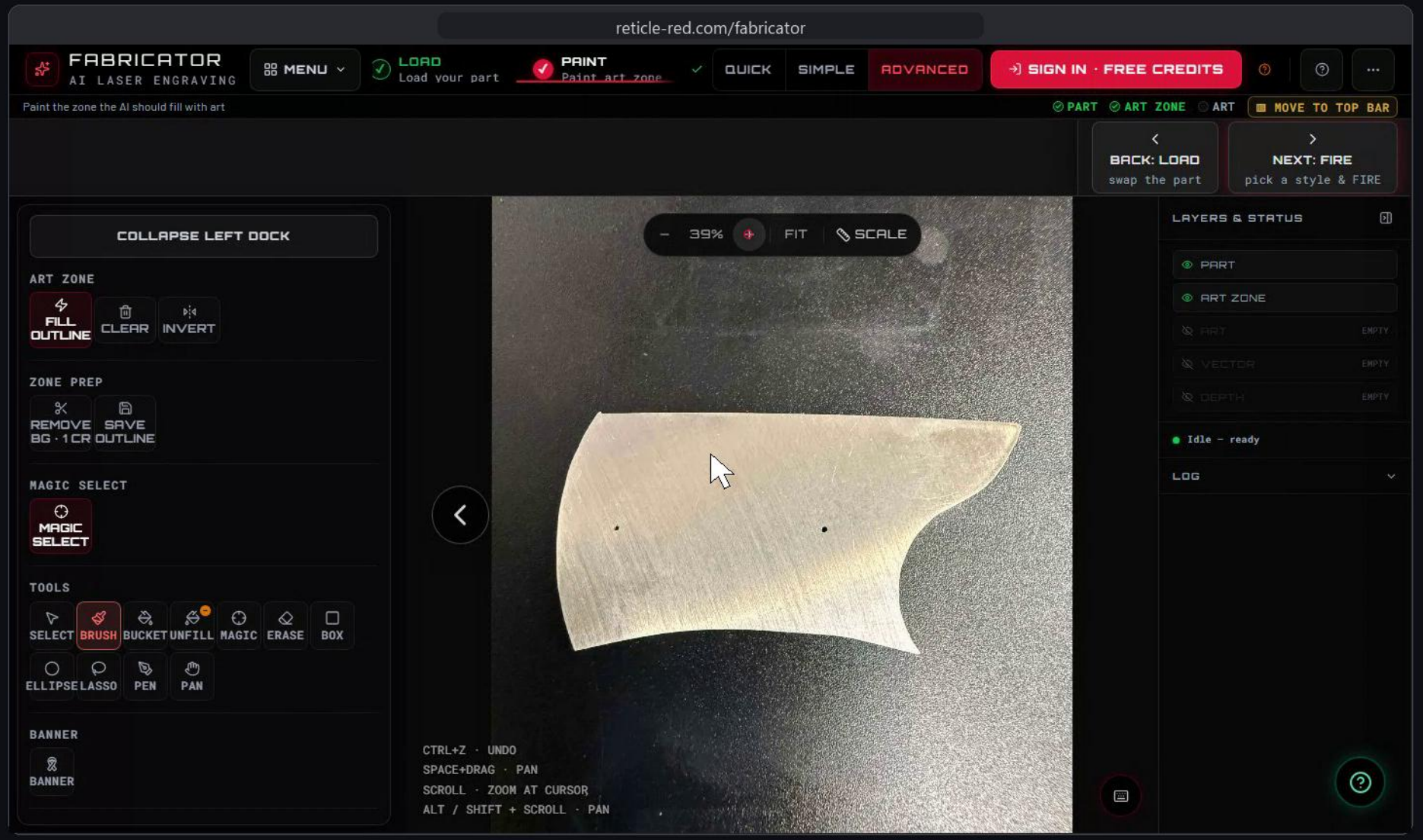
Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part

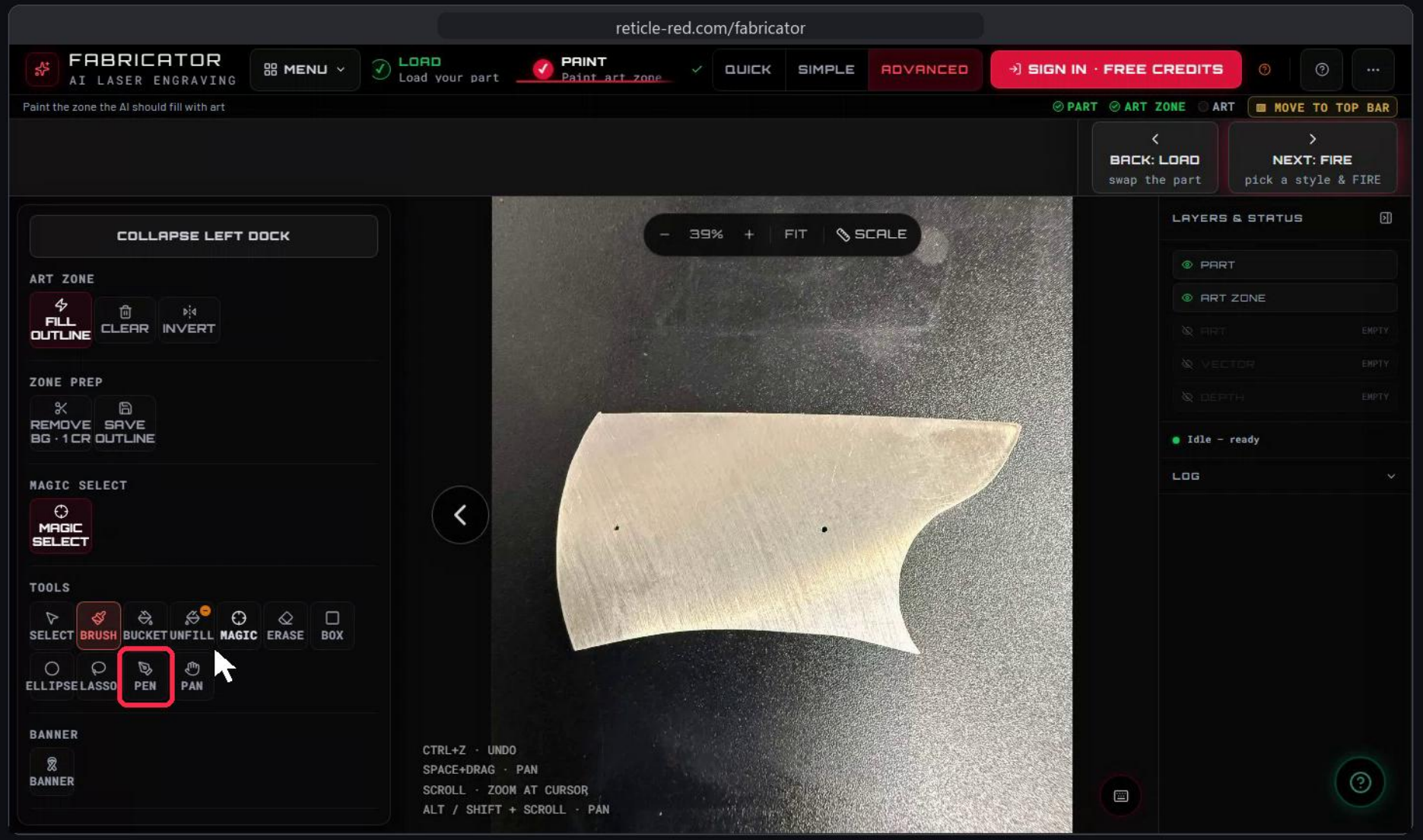


STEP 1 OF 6

A photo of the real part

Photos have shadows, glare and texture. When one-click tools pick up the wrong area, trace the part yourself with PEN.

Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part

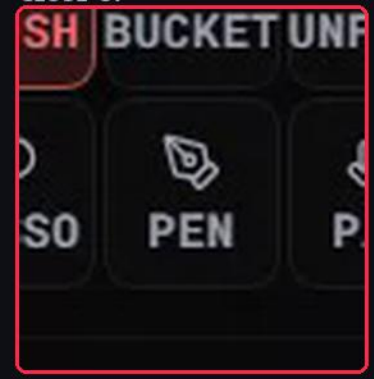


STEP 2 OF 6

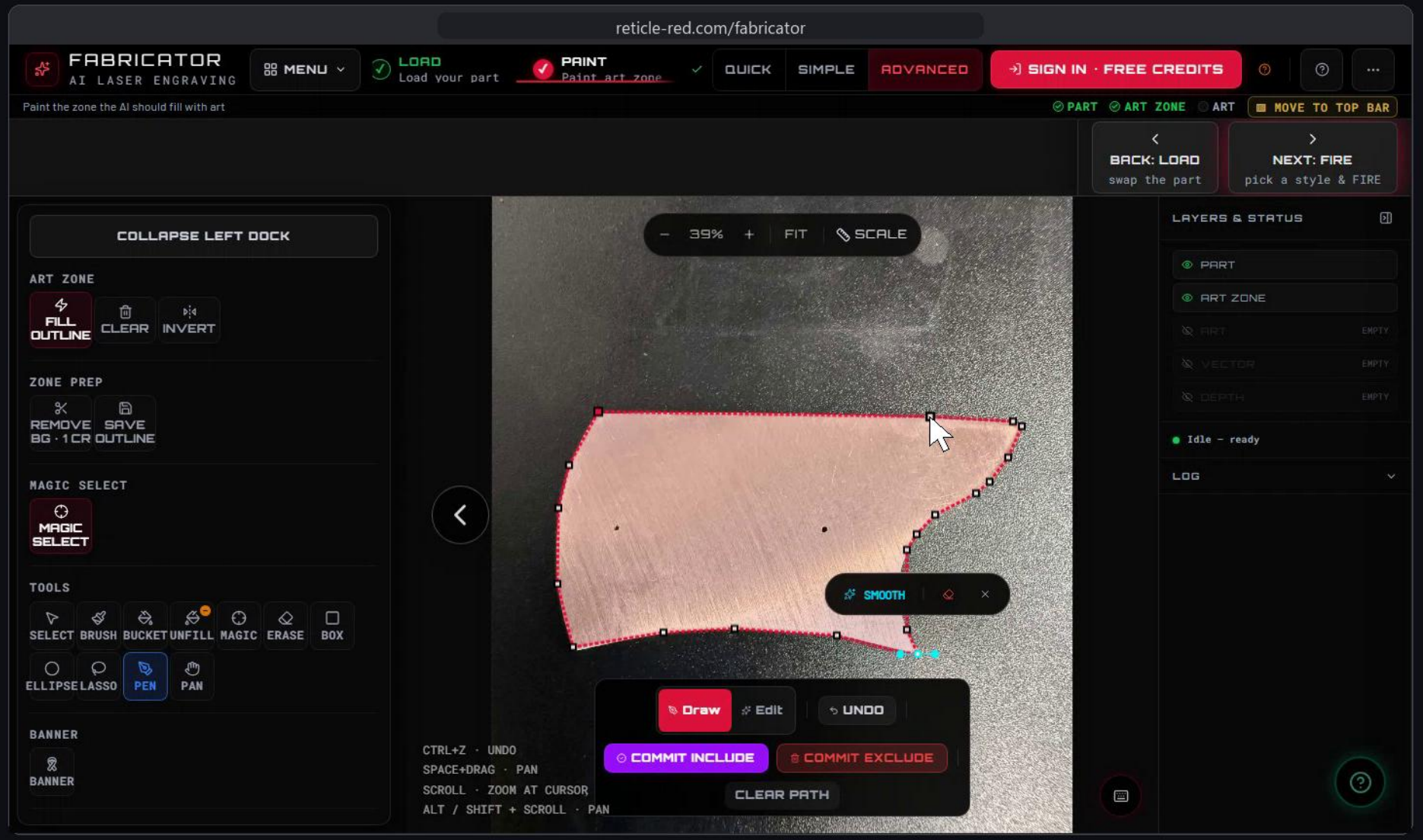
Pick PEN

Click PEN, or press P. Zoom in first so you can see the edge.

CLOSE-UP



Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part

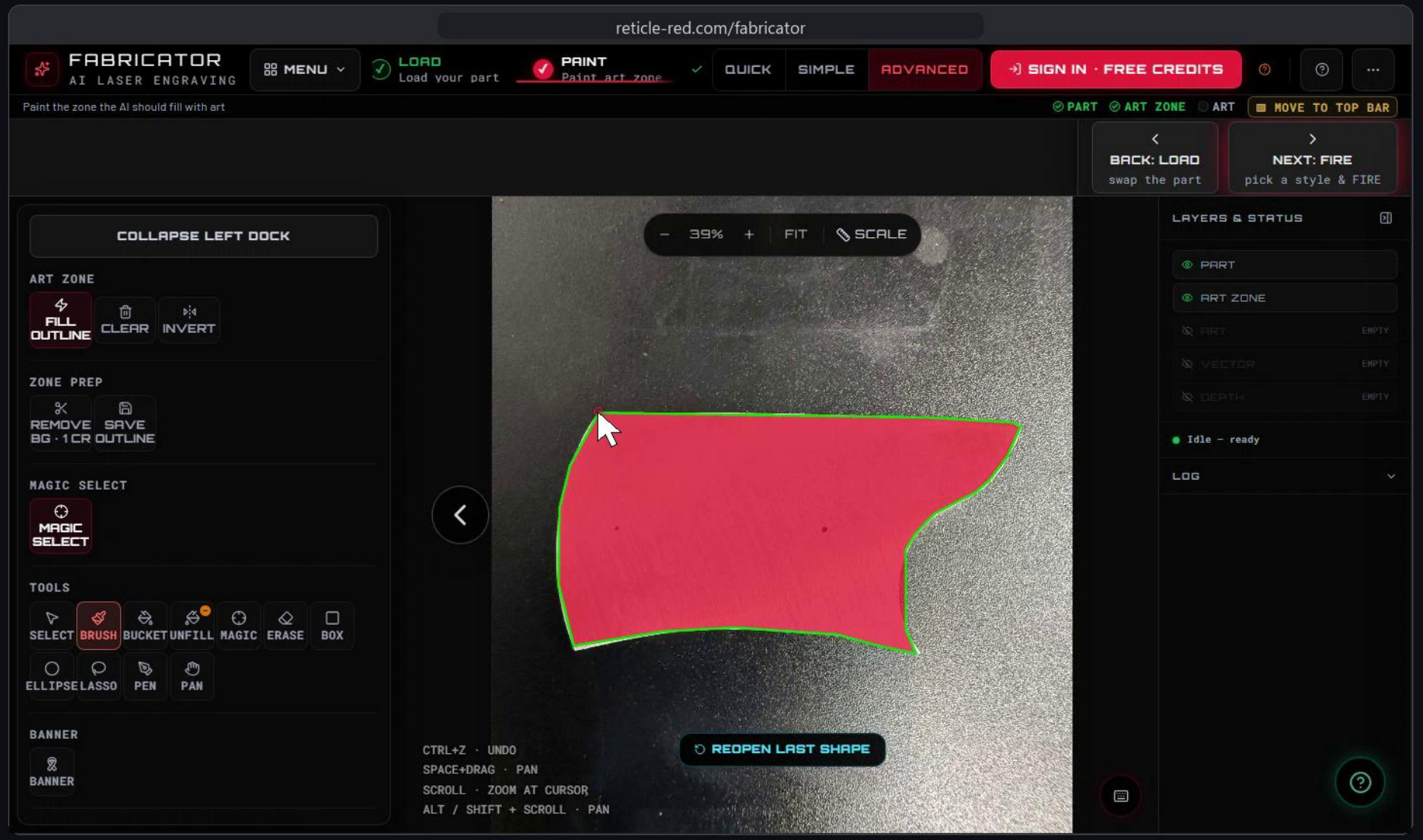


STEP 3 OF 6

Click around the edge

Put a node at every corner and every few millimetres along a curve. More nodes, closer fit.

Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part

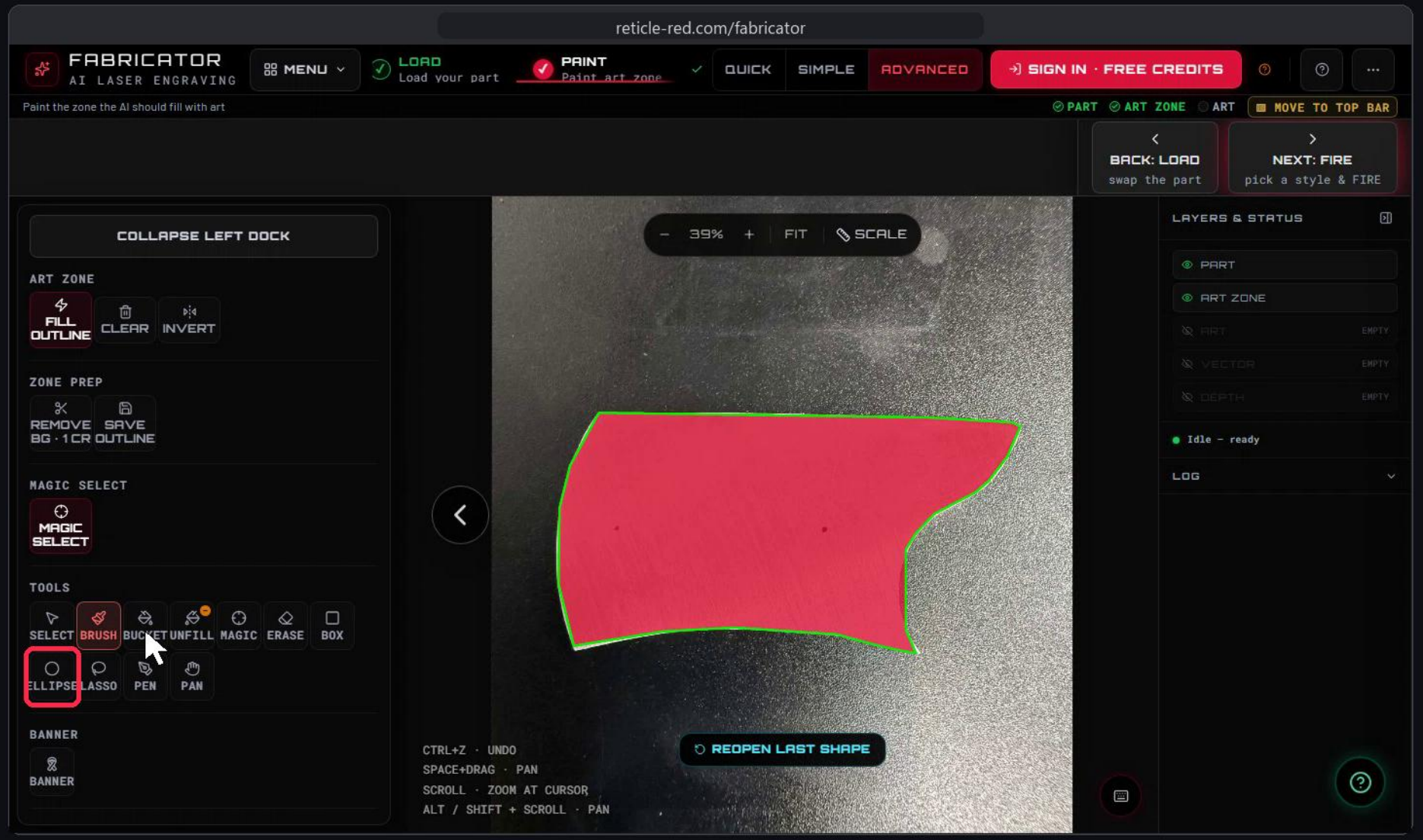


STEP 4 OF 6

Click the first node to close

The loop closes and the inside becomes your art zone. Enter or a double-click works too.

Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part

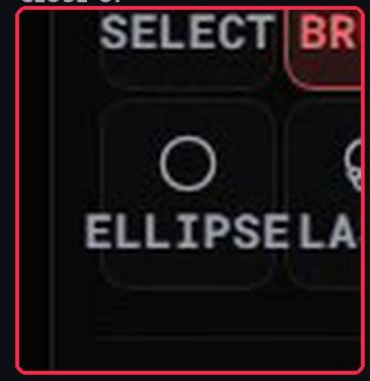


STEP 5 OF 6

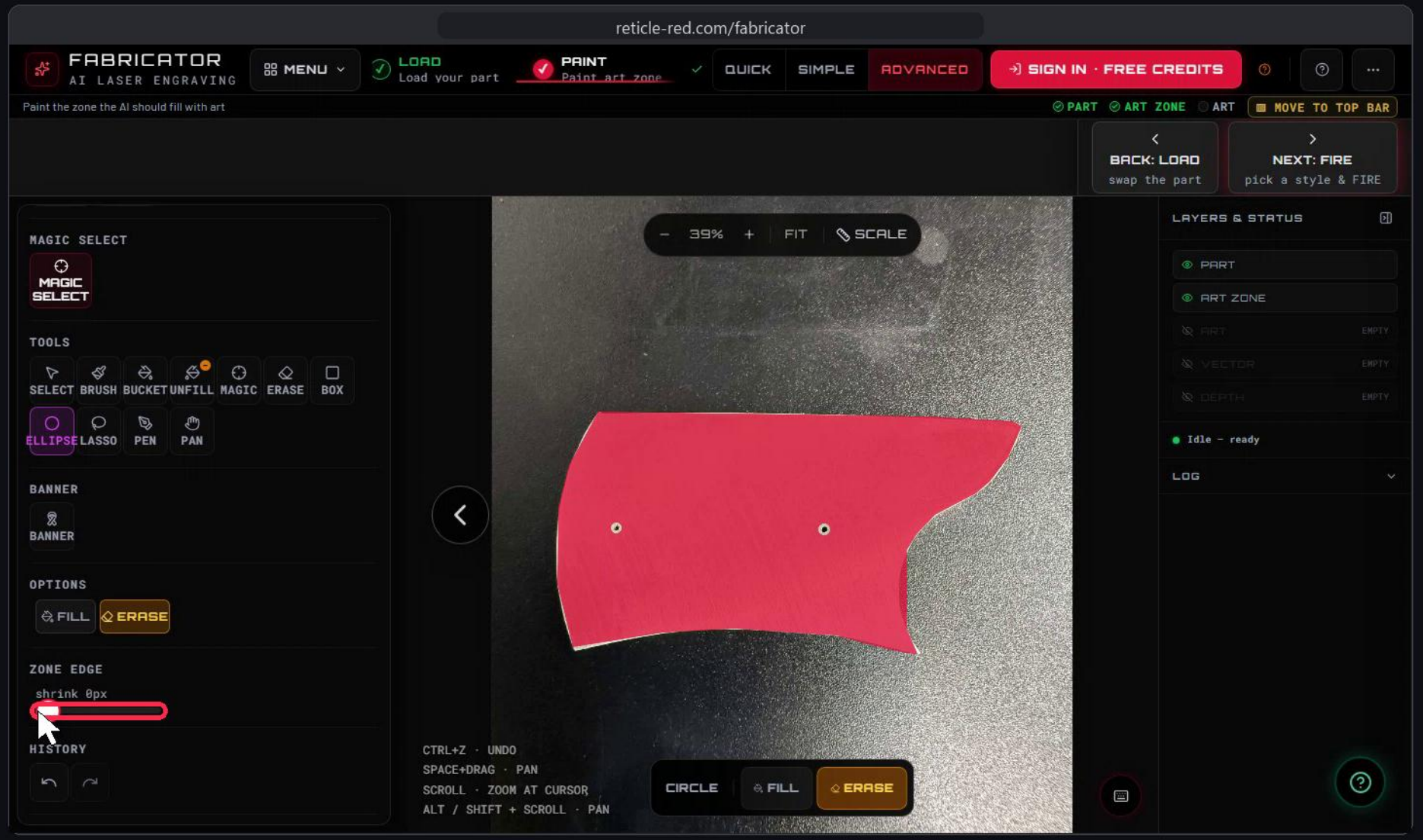
Cut the pin holes

ELLIPSE in Erase mode: drag a small circle over each hole so the art goes around it.

CLOSE-UP



Trace a Photo with Pen — A manual art zone on a real part



STEP 6 OF 6

ZONE EDGE to 0

Drag ZONE EDGE all the way left so the art runs right to the edge of the part.

CLOSE-UP



ART ZONE TUTORIAL 9 OF 9

Lasso and Invert

Freehand shapes, and engraving the background

Best for: Organic shapes, cut-outs, art around a part

The art zone is where the AI puts the engraving art.
Paint it, and the Fabricator fills only that area.

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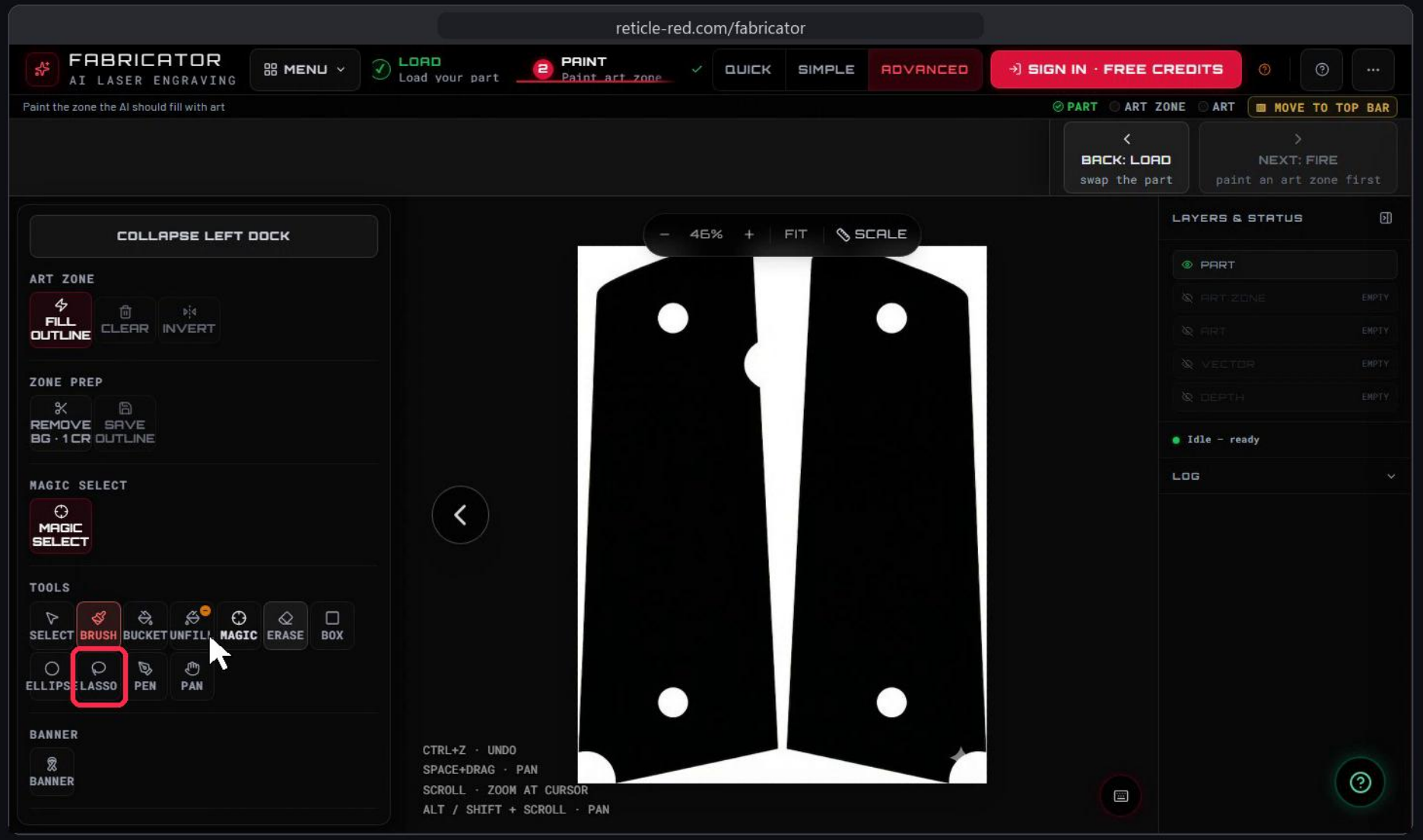
RETICLE RED · ART ZONE TUTORIAL 9 OF 9

Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background

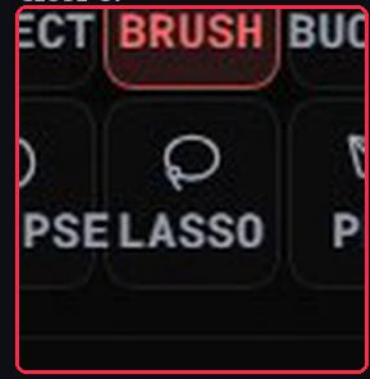


STEP 1 OF 7

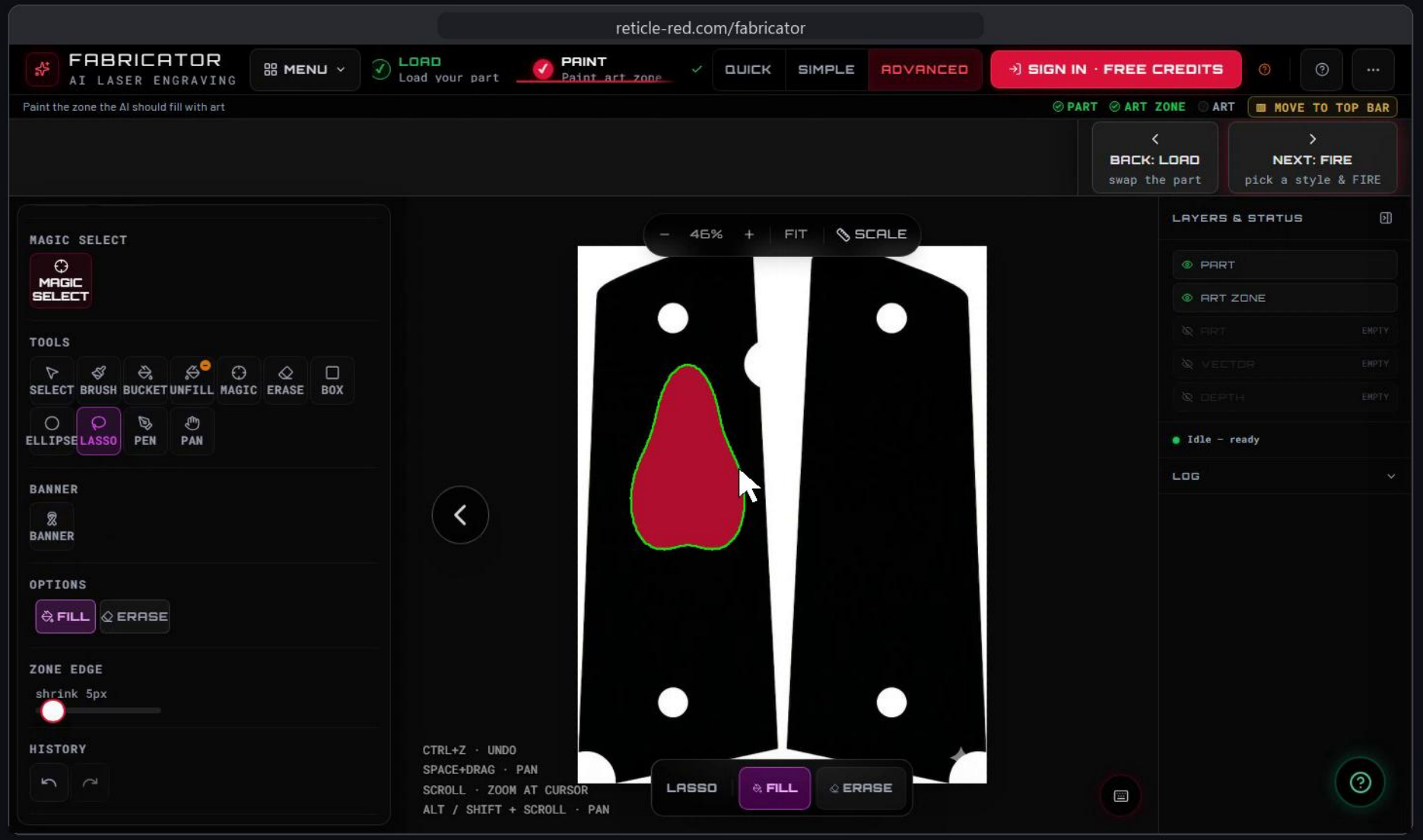
Pick LASSO

For freehand shapes. Click LASSO, or press Q.

CLOSE-UP



Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background

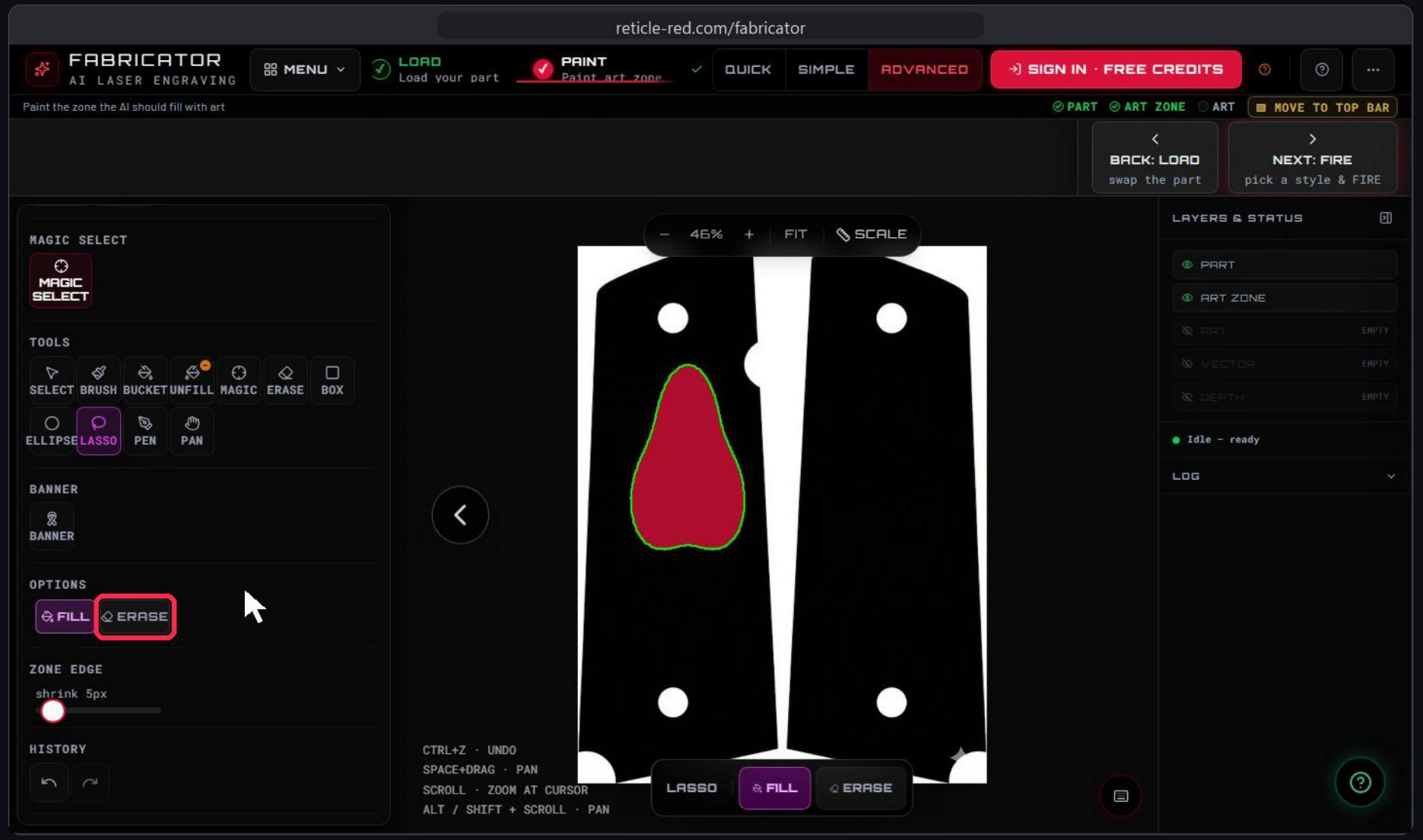


STEP 2 OF 7

Drag around the area

Draw any shape and let go. It closes itself and fills.

Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background

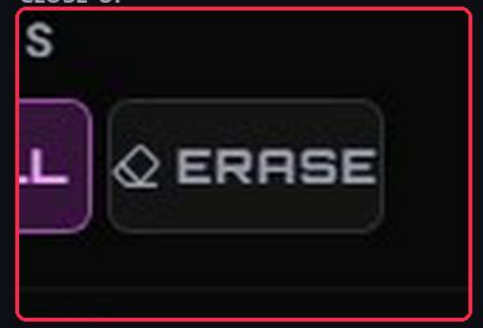


STEP 3 OF 7

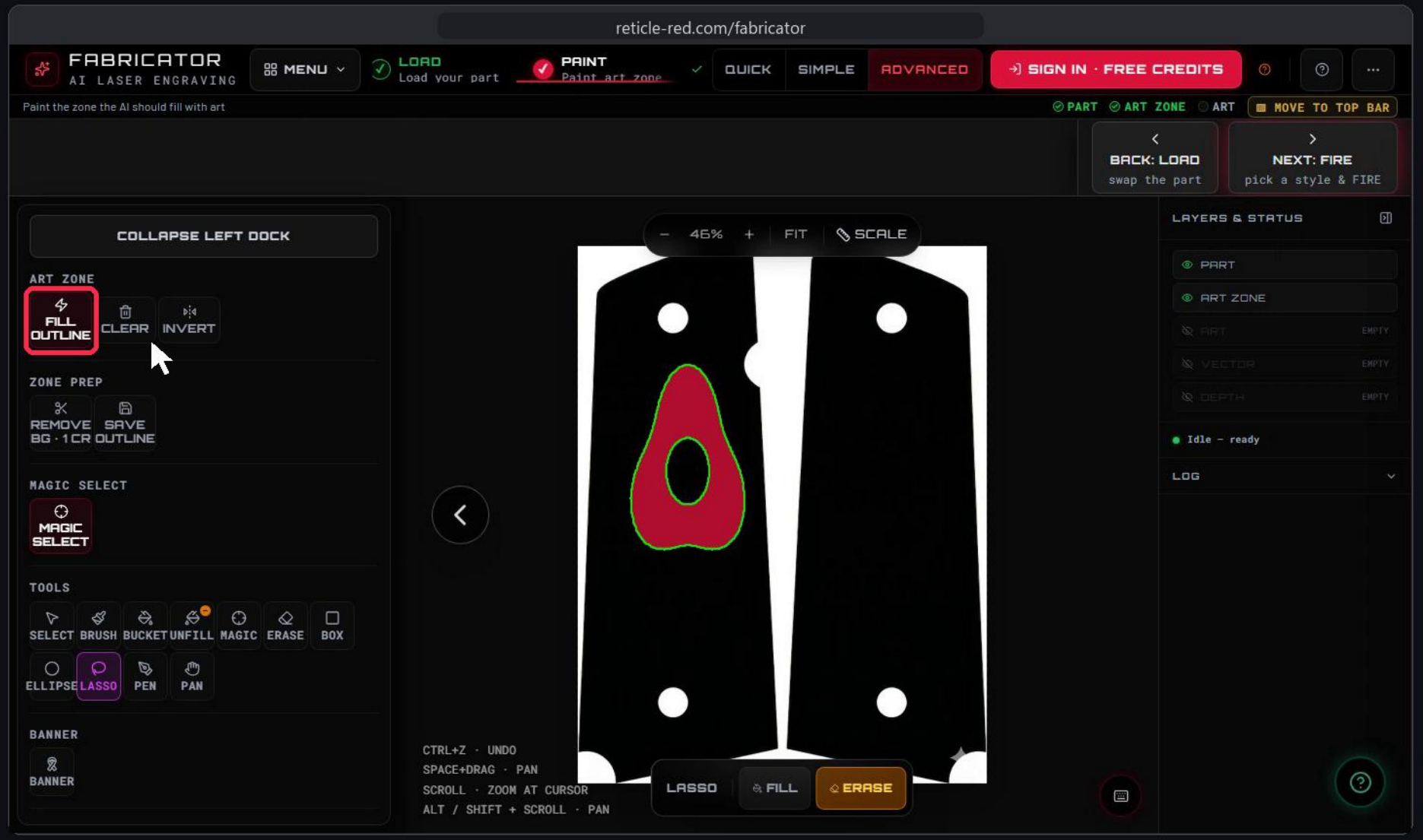
Erase mode cuts a shape out

Switch the option to Erase and lasso a notch out of the zone.

CLOSE-UP



Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background



STEP 4 OF 7

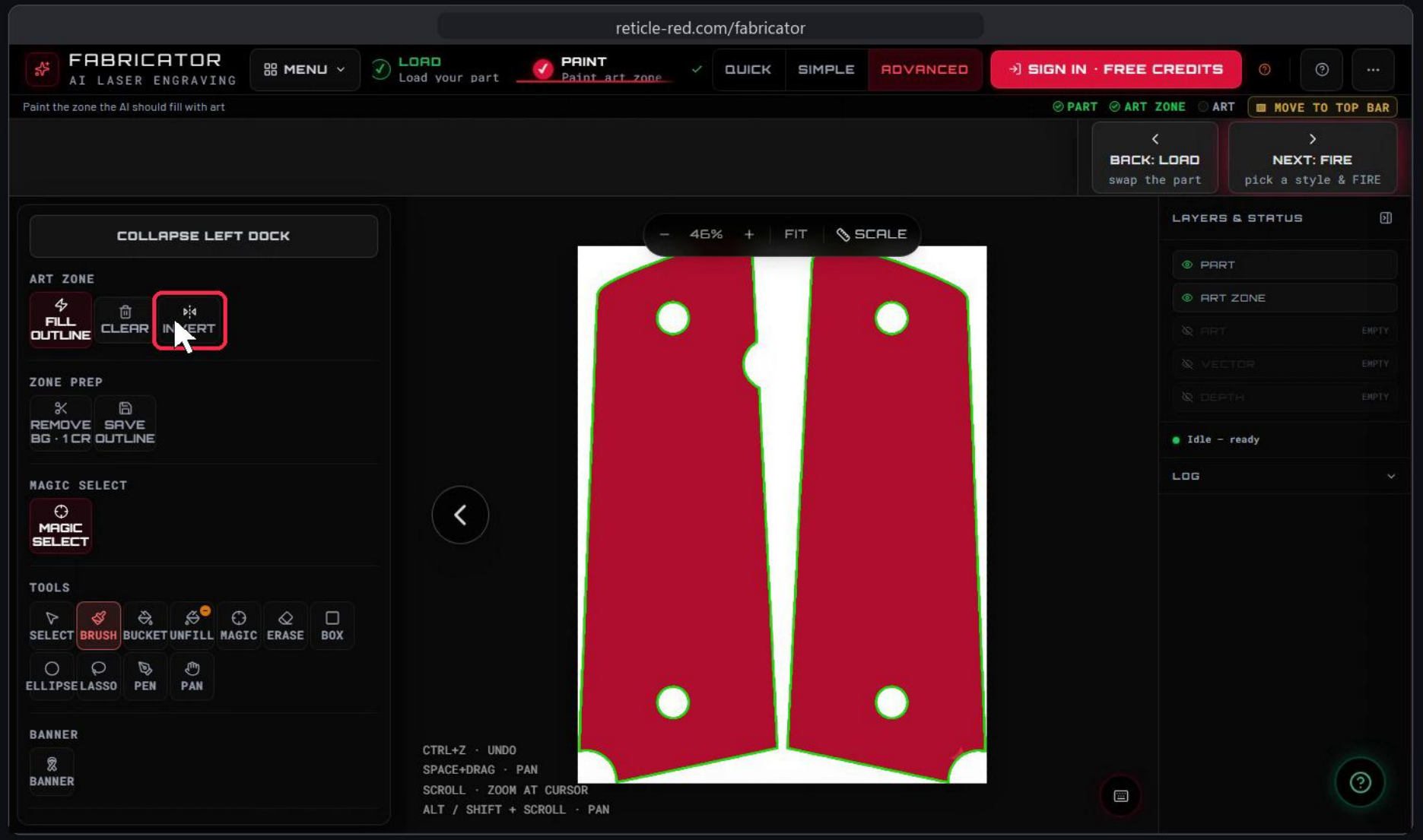
INVERT: engrave the background

Start with FILL OUTLINE so the grips are the zone ...

CLOSE-UP



Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background



STEP 5 OF 7

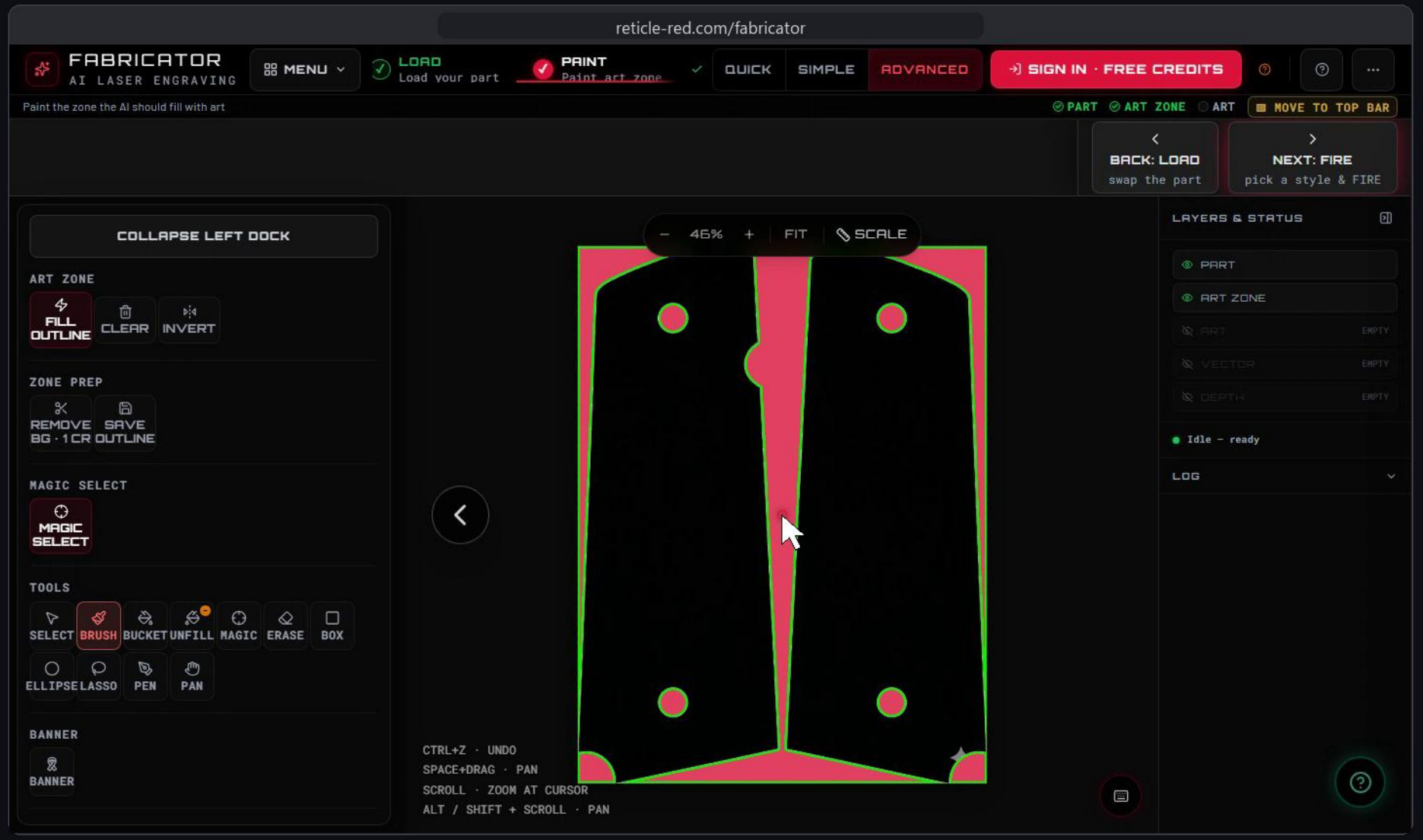
… then click INVERT

The zone and the empty area swap: now the art goes around the parts, not on them.

CLOSE-UP



Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background

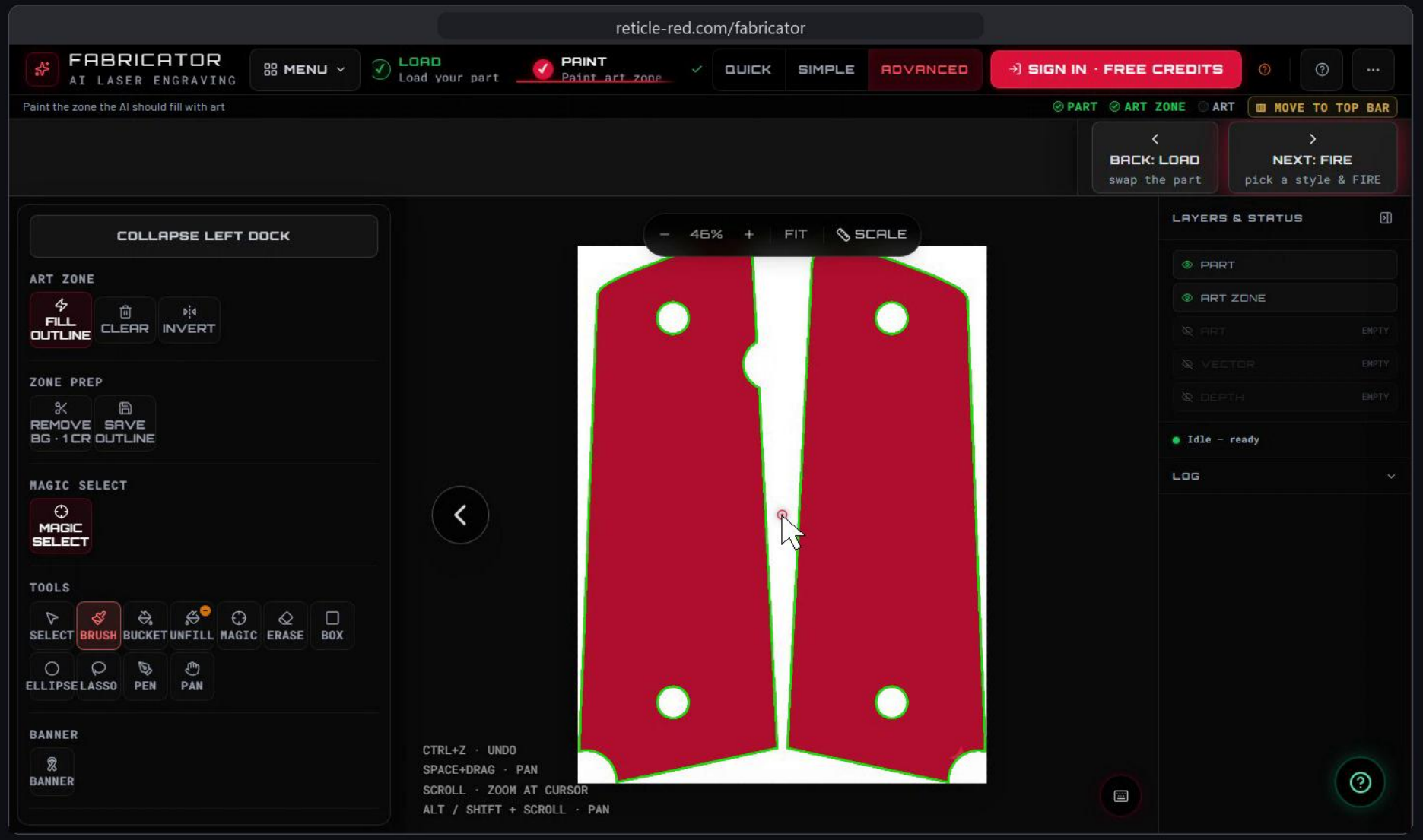


STEP 6 OF 7

The background is now the zone

Everything around the grips is art zone, and the grips themselves stay clear.

Lasso and Invert — Freehand shapes, and engraving the background



STEP 7 OF 7

Undo brings it back

Ctrl+Z (Cmd+Z on a Mac) undoes the invert.