ROCKER ROACH SPREADER

Insert the cotter pin into the cotter pin hole in the leather side of the spreader. Press down so there is a slight compression on the spring and then split the cotter pin ends so they hold in place. Bend the cotter pin ends flat with the plastic side of the base and cut off any that stick out longer than the spreader.

Take a second piece of strap leather and roughly cut to shape the spreader pattern, but leave larger all around the pattern. Spread contact cement on the underside of the leather and also on the plastic side of the spreader made so far. Let dry until tacky. Before contacting these pieces together, align the leather wire and cotter pin assembly so the leather wire is exactly parallel with the center, along the spreader. Contact the pieces together, maintaining the curve tension as before. Trim the excess leather of the bottom piece so it matches the pattern of the top piece.

Punch two small holes at the center hole mark and insert a leather thong for tying the roach to the dancer's head. (Most fancy dancers do not use a hair braid to fasten the roach but that can be done too by punching or drilling a large hole in this spot for the braid to go through.)

To fasten the feathers to the leather wires, cut the small end off of the leather quills and slip the feather quills down over the two wire prongs. Turn them to face the back of the roach and tape securely to the wires using colored plastic tape.