KROGER CO Form 4 April 20, 2005

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or S IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Expires:

January 31,
2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

nstruction 30(n) of the investment co

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Add DILLON DA		ting Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KROGER CO [KR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)		
1014 VINE S	TREET		(Month/Day/Year) 04/19/2005	_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman of the Board and CEO		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
CINCINNAT	T, OH 4520	2	Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			5. Amount of 6. Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Owned Direct (D) Following or Indirect		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(I) (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	04/19/2005		M	64,000	A	\$ 6.375	686,289.1701	D		
Common Stock	04/19/2005		F	43,251	D	\$ 0	643,038.1701 (1)	D		
Common Stock							225,100	I	by Spouse/Children	
Common Stock							54,024	I	by Trust/Children	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amour Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4)	
	Security			Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 6.375	04/19/2005		M	64,000	(2)	04/19/2005	Common Stock	64,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
DILLON DAVID B							
1014 VINE STREET	X		Chairman of the Board and CEO				

Signatures

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

/s/ David B.
Dillon

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person includes shares in the Company's employee benefit plans which are deemed to be 'tax-conditioned plans' pursuant to Rule 16b-3, to the extent disclosed on reports received from plan trustees.
- These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a (2) three-year period, at the rate of one-third per year commencing one year after the date of grant, with the remainder vesting three years from the date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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