KROGER CO Form 4 May 09, 2005

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Add HENDERSON		_	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
			KROGER CO [KR]	(Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction				
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner			
1014 VINE STREET			05/05/2005	X Officer (give title Other (special below)			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
CINCINNATI, OH 45202				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acq	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned			

,	(State)	(Eip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities		5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionAcquired (A) or			Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code Disposed of (D)		Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and	d 5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
						Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
				(A)	`	Reported		
				(A)		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount (D)	(D) Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
C			Code v	Amount (D)) Thee	10 276 4221		
Common						10,376.4321	D	
Stock						<u>(1)</u>		

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number of	of	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title and A	Amoun
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orDerivative		Expiration D	ate	Underlying S	Securit
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Securities		(Month/Day/	Year)	(Instr. 3 and	4)
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A	4)				
	Derivative				or Disposed	l of				
	Security				(D)					
					(Instr. 3, 4,					
					and 5)					
										Amo
							Date	Expiration		or
							Exercisable	Date	Title	Num
				Code V	(4)	(D)	Exercisable	Date		of Sh
				Code v	(A) ((D)				01 511
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 16.385	05/05/2005		A	12,000		(2)	05/05/2015	Common Stock	12,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HENDERSON SCOTT M			Vice				
1014 VINE STREET			President &				
CINCINNATI, OH 45202			Treasurer				

Signatures

/s/ Scott M. Henderson, by Bruce M. Gack, Attorney-in-Fact 05/09/2005

**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.
- (2) These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year 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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