

KROGER CO  
Form 4  
April 18, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
*See Instruction*  
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**BOEHM WILLIAM T**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

1014 VINE STREET

(Street)

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
**KROGER CO [KR]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**04/14/2005**

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Senior Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired<br>or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                   | Amount                                                                                                             | (A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                     | Price                                                             |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 04/14/2005                              |                                                             | M                                    |                                                                     | 19,000                                                                                                             | A                                                                    | \$<br>6.375                                                       |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 04/14/2005                              |                                                             | F                                    |                                                                     | 7,582                                                                                                              | D                                                                    | \$ 0                                                              |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                     |                                                                                                                    |                                                                      | 19,428                                                            |
|                                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                     |                                                                                                                    |                                                                      | I                                                                 |
|                                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                     |                                                                                                                    |                                                                      | by Spouse                                                         |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

number.

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                    | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                             | Title                               |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option                       | \$ 6.375                                                           | 04/14/2005                              |                                                             | M                                    | 19,000                                                                                                       | <u>(2)</u>                                                     | 04/19/2005                                                     | Common<br>Stock 19,000              |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                              | Relationships                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                             | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| BOEHM WILLIAM T<br>1014 VINE STREET<br>CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | Senior Vice President            |

## Signatures

/s/ William T. Boehm, by Bruce M. Gack,  
Attorney-in-Fact 04/15/2005

\*\*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.
- 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.  
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