

KROGER CO
Form 4
March 09, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BECKER DONALD E

(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)
03/08/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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 Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)				Price
Common Stock	03/08/2006		M		16,000	A	\$ 10.375	109,208.4998	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2006		S		8,000	D	\$ 20.29	101,208.4998	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2006		S		2,000	D	\$ 20.28	99,208.4998	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2006		S		2,000	D	\$ 20.27	97,208.4998	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2006		S		1,000	D	\$ 20.26	96,208.4998	D	
	03/08/2006		S		3,000	D	\$ 20.24		D	

Common Stock	93,208.4998		
	(1)		
Common Stock	10,228	I	by Spouse
Common Stock	1,050	I	by Children

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

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(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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 10.375	03/08/2006		M	16,000	(2) 04/17/2006	Common Stock 16,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
BECKER DONALD E 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Director 10% Owner Officer Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Donald E. Becker, by Bruce M. Gack,
Attorney-in-Fact

03/09/2006

**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)

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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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