

Aitken Stuart
Form 4
March 18, 2019

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
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Aitken Stuart

(Last) (First) (Middle)

THE KROGER CO., 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)

03/14/2019

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 Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	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)
Common Stock	03/14/2019		A	27,556 (1)	A \$ 0 116,228.1788	D	
Common Stock	03/14/2019		A	9,091 (2)	A \$ 0 125,319.1788	D	
Common Stock	03/15/2019		A	2,214	A \$ 0 127,533.1788	D	
Common Stock	03/15/2019		F	988 (3)	D \$ 24.75 126,545.1788	D	
Common Stock					3,017.9124	I	by Spouse

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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. 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.75	03/14/2019		A		75,291		<u>(4)</u>	03/14/2029	Common Stock	75,291
Non-Qualified Stock Option	\$ 24.75	03/14/2019		A		16,584		<u>(5)</u>	03/14/2029	Common Stock	16,584

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Aitken Stuart THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Senior Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Stuart Aitken, by Stacey M. Heiser,
Attorney-in-Fact

03/18/2019

____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) Restricted stock awarded pursuant to a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. The restrictions on these shares lapse in equal annual installments over a four-year period, at the rate of 25% per year commencing one year from the date of the award.
- (2) Restricted stock awarded pursuant to a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. The restrictions on these shares lapse in equal annual installments over a three-year period, at the rate of 33% per year commencing one year from the date of the award.
- (3) Payment of tax liability associated with share award.

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- (4) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments over a four-year period, at the rate of 25% per year commencing one year from the date of the grant.
- (5) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments over a three-year period, at the rate of 33% per year commencing one year after the date of the 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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