

KROGER CO
Form 3
March 18, 2013

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â Clark Robert W | | (Month/Day/Year) | KROGER CO [KR] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| | | 03/14/2013 | | |
| 1014 VINE STREET | | | (Check all applicable) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| (Street) | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
| CINCINNATI, OH | 45202 | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | (give title below) (specify below) | |
| | | | Group Vice President | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 24,537.2405 ⁽¹⁾ | D | Â |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | Date Exercisable | Title | Amount or Number of | | |

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| | | | | Shares | | (I) (Instr. 5) | |
|----------------------------|-------|------------|--------------|--------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 05/06/2014 | Common Stock | 9,000 | \$ 17.31 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 05/04/2016 | Common Stock | 6,000 | \$ 19.94 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/28/2017 | Common Stock | 7,200 | \$ 28.27 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/26/2018 | Common Stock | 5,500 | \$ 28.61 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/25/2019 | Common Stock | 7,250 | \$ 22.34 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/24/2020 | Common Stock | 7,250 | \$ 20.16 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/24/2020 | Common Stock | 3,500 | \$ 20.16 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 09/16/2020 | Common Stock | 3,500 | \$ 21.88 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/23/2021 | Common Stock | 7,250 | \$ 24.74 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 06/23/2021 | Common Stock | 4,000 | \$ 24.74 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 12/08/2021 | Common Stock | 5,000 | \$ 23.52 | D | Â |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | Â (2) | 07/12/2022 | Common Stock | 8,000 | \$ 21.96 | D | Â |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Clark Robert W 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | Â | Â | Â Group Vice President | Â |

Signatures

/s/ Robert W. Clark 03/18/2013

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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 that 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 a long-term incentive 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 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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