

Aitken Stuart  
Form 4  
March 18, 2019

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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

(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  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Senior 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 (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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                 | Amount or Price                                                                               |                                                          |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 03/14/2019                           |                                                    | A                              |                                                                   | 27,556 <sup>(1)</sup><br>\$ 0                                                                 | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 03/14/2019                           |                                                    | A                              |                                                                   | 9,091 <sup>(2)</sup><br>\$ 0                                                                  | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 03/15/2019                           |                                                    | A                              |                                                                   | 2,214<br>\$ 0                                                                                 | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 03/15/2019                           |                                                    | F                              |                                                                   | 988 <sup>(3)</sup><br>\$ 24.75                                                                | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 3,017.9124                                                                                    | I                                                        | by Spouse                                             |



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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.

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.