

KROGER CO  
Form 3  
September 18, 2015

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

**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 Madlinger Sukanya R		(Month/Day/Year)	KROGER CO [KR]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	09/17/2015	
C/O THE KROGER CO.,Â 1014 VINE STREET			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
CINCINNATI,Â OHÂ 45202			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			Senior 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	53,450	D	Â
Common Stock	5,482.0051 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	by Spouse

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**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	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (2)	06/23/2021	Common Stock	4,200	\$ 12.37	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (2)	07/12/2022	Common Stock	12,600	\$ 10.98	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (2)	07/15/2023	Common Stock	33,600	\$ 18.88	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (2)	07/15/2024	Common Stock	30,000	\$ 24.665	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (2)	07/15/2025	Common Stock	20,993	\$ 38.33	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (3)	07/15/2023	Common Stock	500	\$ 18.88	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option	Â (3)	07/15/2024	Common Stock	868	\$ 24.665	I	by Spouse

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Madlinger Sukanya R C/O THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Â	Â	Â Senior Vice President	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Sukanya R. Madlinger, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact 09/18/2015

\_\_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 reporting person's spouse is a former employee of The Kroger Co. The total amount of securities directly owned by the reporting person's spouse 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.
  - (3) These options were granted under an option plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole share amounts over a 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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