### Edgar Filing: KROGER CO - Form 4

| KROGER (<br>Form 4   | CO                                      |              |                   |   |                     |        |                      |  |  |   |  |
|--|---|--------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|--------|----------------------|--|--|---|--|
| June 29, 20  |   |              |                   |   |                     |        |                      |  |  |   |  |
| FORM   | $\mathbf{M}$ <b>4 UNITED</b>            | STATES       | SECU              | RITIFS  | AND FX              | сн     | ANGE CO              | MMISSION   | OMB AP   | PROVAL  |  |
|  | Washington, D.C. 20549                  |              |                   |   |                     |        |                      | 51011011051011   | OMB<br>Number:   | 3235-0287   |  |
| Check this box<br>if no longer<br>subject to<br>Section 16.<br>Form 4 or |   |              |                   |   |                     |        |                      |  | Expires:   | January 31, 2005  |  |
|  |   |              |                   | SECU  | RITIES              |        |                      |  | Estimated av<br>burden hours<br>response                                   | iverage<br>rs per   |  |
| Form 5<br>obligati<br>may co<br><i>See</i> Inst<br>1(b).                 | ons<br>ntinue. Section 17               | (a) of the l | Public U          | Utility Ho  | olding Co           | mpar   | •                    | Act of 1934,<br>1935 or Section  |  |   |  |
| (Print or Type   | Responses)                              |              |                   |   |                     |        |                      |  |  |   |  |
| MARMER LYNN Sy   |   |              |                   | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading<br>Symbol<br>KROGER CO [KR] |                     |        |                      | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to<br>Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)                  |  |   |  |
| (Last)   | (First)                                 | (Middle)     | 3. Date           | of Earliest   | Transactior         | ı      |                      | (Check   | an applicable)   |   |  |
| THE KRO<br>STREET  | GER CO., 1014 V                         | /INE         | (Month/<br>06/28/ | /Day/Year)<br>2011  |                     |        | ·                    | Director<br>X Officer (give t<br>pelow)<br>Group   |  | Owner<br>(specify   |  |
|  | (Street)                                |              |                   | nendment, l<br>onth/Day/Ye  | Date Origin<br>ear) | al     |                      | 6. Individual or Join<br>Applicable Line)<br>_X_ Form filed by Or                              | ne Reporting Pers  | son   |  |
| CINCINN  | ATI, OH 45202                           |              |                   |   |                     |        | i                    | Form filed by Mo<br>Person   | ore than One Rep   | orting  |  |
| (City)   | (State)                                 | (Zip)        | Ta                | ble I - Non   | -Derivative         | e Secu | ırities Acqu         | ired, Disposed of,   | or Beneficially  | y Owned   |  |
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                                     | ity (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if |              |                   | Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  |                     |        |                      | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s) | 6.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |   |              |                   | Code V  | Amount              | (D)    | Price                | (Instr. 3 and 4)   |  |   |  |
| Common<br>Stock  | 06/28/2011                              |              |                   | М   | 30,000              | А      | \$ 17.31             | 82,056.1986  | D  |   |  |
| Common<br>Stock  | 06/28/2011                              |              |                   | М   | 30,000              | А      | \$ 16.385            | 112,056.1986   | D  |   |  |
| Common<br>Stock  | 06/28/2011                              |              |                   | S   | 63,200              | D      | \$<br>24.3093<br>(1) | 48,856.1986  | D  |   |  |
| Common<br>Stock  | 06/28/2011                              |              |                   | F   | 481 <u>(2)</u>      | D      | \$ 24.41             | 48,375.1986<br>(3)   | D  |   |  |

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

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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 Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactio<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number of<br>actionDerivative<br>Securities<br>8) Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) |        | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and Amour<br>Underlying Securit<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                           |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--------|--|--------------------|--|---------------------------|
|   |   |   |   | Code V                                 | (A)   | (D)    | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of Sh |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option                       | \$ 17.31  | 06/28/2011                              |   | М                                      |   | 30,000 | (4)  | 05/06/2014         | Common<br>Stock  | 30,0                      |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option                       | \$ 16.385   | 06/28/2011                              |   | М                                      |   | 30,000 | <u>(4)</u>   | 05/05/2015         | Common<br>Stock  | 30,0                      |

## **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  |          | I          |                      |       |  |
|---|----------|------------|----------------------|-------|--|
|   | Director | 10% Owner  | Officer              | Other |  |
| MARMER LYNN<br>THE KROGER CO.<br>1014 VINE STREET<br>CINCINNATI, OH 45202 |          |            | Group Vice President |       |  |
| Signatures  |          |            |                      |       |  |
| /s/ Lynn Marmer, by Bruce M.<br>Attorney-in-Fact                          |          | 06/29/2011 |                      |       |  |
| <u>**</u> 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).

The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$24.30 to \$24.345, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to The Kroger Co., any security holder of The Kroger Co., or the staff

- (1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth above.
- (2) Payment of tax liability associated with restricted stock.
- (3) 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.

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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 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. 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.