

LOWES COMPANIES INC  
 Form 3  
 July 11, 2005

**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 <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Edwards William W		(Month/Day/Year)	LOWES COMPANIES INC [LOW]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	07/01/2005	
1000 LOWE'S BOULEVARD			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
MOORESVILLE,Â NCÂ 28117			<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
			SVP Store Operations	

**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	227	D	Â
Common Stock (401(k) Account)	8,260 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Â
Common Stock (BRP)	660 <sup>(2)</sup>	D	Â
Common Stock (Restricted)	2,826	D	Â

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	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying	4. Conversion	5. Ownership	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial
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	(Month/Day/Year)		Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	03/01/2006	03/01/2010	Common Stock	2,544	\$ 39.3	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	03/01/2006	03/01/2010	Common Stock	72	\$ 39.3	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	Â <u>(3)</u>	03/01/2011	Common Stock	2,865	\$ 56.75	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	Â <u>(4)</u>	03/01/2012	Common Stock	2,785	\$ 58.35	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Edwards William W 1000 LOWE'S BOULEVARD MOORESVILLE, NC 28117	Â	Â	Â SVP Store Operations	Â

## Signatures

By: Ben Adams For: William W. Edwards  
Date: 07/11/2005

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) Shares acquired under Lowe's Companies, Inc. 401(k) Plan.
- (2) Shares acquired under Lowe's Benefit Restoration Plan (BRP).
- (3) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning on March 1, 2005
- (4) The option vests in three equal annual installments beginning on March 1, 2006.

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.