

AUTOZONE INC  
Form S-3ASR  
April 04, 2019  
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 4, 2019

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

FORM S-3  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
*UNDER*  
*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

**AutoZone, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

62-1482048  
(IRS Employer  
Identification Number)

Edgar Filing: AUTOZONE INC - Form S-3ASR

**123 South Front Street**

**Memphis, Tennessee 38103**

**Telephone: (901) 495-6500**

**(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)**

**Kristen C. Wright**

**Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary**

**123 South Front Street**

**Memphis, Tennessee 38103**

**Telephone: (901) 495-6500**

**(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)**

*Copies to:*

**Laura R. Brothers**

**Bass, Berry & Sims PLC**

**150 Third Avenue South, Suite 2800**

**Nashville, TN 37201**

**Telephone: (615) 742-6200**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after this registration statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

Edgar Filing: AUTOZONE INC - Form S-3ASR

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, and emerging growth company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

	Title of each class of securities to be registered	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price		Amount of registration fee (3)
		(1)	(2)	
Debt securities				

- (1) There is being registered hereunder an indeterminate principal amount or number of debt securities as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices.
- (2) Omitted pursuant to Form S-3 General Instruction II.E.
- (3) In accordance with Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r), of the rules and regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.

**Table of Contents**

Prospectus

**AutoZone, Inc.**

**Debt Securities**

We may offer and sell our debt securities from time to time in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the debt securities that we may offer. We may offer and sell debt securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continued or delayed basis.

Our principal executive offices are located at 123 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103, and our telephone number is (901) 495-6500.

We will provide specific terms of debt securities we offer, and the manner in which they are being offered, in supplements to this prospectus. Our debt securities cannot be sold unless this prospectus is accompanied by a prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

**Investing in our debt securities involves certain risks. Before buying our debt securities, you should refer to the risks and uncertainties referenced under the heading *Risk Factors* on page 1 of this prospectus as well as those contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and in the documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these debt securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is April 4, 2019.

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, in any accompanying prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectus filed by us with the SEC. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these debt securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement or in any such free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the respective dates thereof. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

When we refer to we, our and us in this prospectus, we mean AutoZone, Inc., including, unless the context otherwise requires or as otherwise expressly stated, our subsidiaries. When we refer to you or yours, we mean the purchasers of the applicable debt securities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	ii
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	ii
<u>AUTOZONE, INC.</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	1
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	2
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	3
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	7
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	9
<u>EXPERTS</u>	9

**Table of Contents**

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a shelf registration statement that we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. Under this shelf registration, we may sell the debt securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the debt securities that we may offer. Each time we sell debt securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the terms of the debt securities being sold. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Before purchasing any debt securities, you should carefully read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We are a public company and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). We also make available free of charge through our website our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, as well as our definitive proxy statements and Section 16 reports on Forms 3, 4 and 5.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the ticker symbol **AZO**. Our website address is <https://www.autozone.com>. However, the information located on, or accessible from, our website is not, and shall not be deemed to be, a part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement or incorporated into any other filings that we make with the SEC.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC. The full registration statement may be obtained from the SEC or us at the website addresses specified above. Documents establishing the terms of the offered debt securities are filed as exhibits to the registration statement. Statements in this prospectus about these documents are summaries. You should refer to the actual documents for a more complete description of the relevant matters.

**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The rules of the SEC allow us to incorporate by reference the reports and documents we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents set forth below that we have previously filed with the SEC and any future filings made under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering of debt securities offered by this prospectus:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 25, 2018 (filed with the SEC on October 24, 2018);

the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 25, 2018 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on

Edgar Filing: AUTOZONE INC - Form S-3ASR

October 26, 2018, for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on December 19, 2018;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended November 17, 2018 (filed with the SEC on December 18, 2018) and February 9, 2019 (filed with the SEC on March 15, 2019); and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on September 26, 2018, September 27, 2018, October 19, 2018, November 19, 2018, December 20, 2018 and March 20, 2019.

**Table of Contents**

Notwithstanding the foregoing, information that we furnish under Items 2.02 and 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K, including the related exhibits under Item 9.01, is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, or any prospectus supplement.

We will furnish without charge to you, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents described above, except for exhibits to those documents, unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. Requests should be addressed to:

Secretary

AutoZone, Inc.

123 South Front Street

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

(901) 495-6500

**Table of Contents**

**AUTOZONE, INC.**

We are the nation's leading retailer, and a leading distributor, of automotive replacement parts and accessories in the United States. We began operations in 1979 and operate AutoZone stores in the United States, including Puerto Rico, Mexico and Brazil. Each AutoZone store carries an extensive product line for cars, sport utility vehicles, vans and light trucks, including new and remanufactured automotive hard parts, maintenance items, accessories and non-automotive products. In certain of our domestic AutoZone stores, we also have a commercial sales program that provides commercial credit and prompt delivery of parts and other products to local, regional and national repair garages, dealers, service stations and public sector accounts. We also have commercial programs in select stores in Mexico and Brazil. We also sell the ALLDATA brand automotive diagnostic and repair software through [www.alldata.com](http://www.alldata.com) and [www.alldatadiy.com](http://www.alldatadiy.com). Additionally, we sell automotive hard parts, maintenance items, accessories, and non-automotive products through [www.autozone.com](http://www.autozone.com) and our commercial customers can make purchases through [www.autozonepro.com](http://www.autozonepro.com). We do not derive revenue from automotive repair or installation services.

Our executive offices are located at 123 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103, and our telephone number is (901) 495-6500. AutoZone, Inc. is a Nevada corporation.

**RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our debt securities involves a certain degree of risk. You should carefully consider the factors contained in Item 1A under Part 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 25, 2018, under the heading "Risk Factors" and updated, if applicable, in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q before investing in our securities. You should also consider similar information contained in any Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or other document filed by us with the SEC after the date of this prospectus before deciding to invest in our securities. If any of these risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be adversely affected. When we offer and sell any securities pursuant to a prospectus supplement, we may include additional risk factors relevant to such securities in the prospectus supplement.

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus are forward-looking statements (as the term is defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act) and constitute the Company's cautionary statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements typically use words such as believe, anticipate, should, intend, plan, will, expect, estimate, positioned, strategy, seek, may, could, and similar expressions. These are based on assumptions and assessments by our management in light of experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors that we believe to be appropriate. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including without limitation: product demand; energy prices; weather; competition; credit market conditions; access to available and feasible financing; the impact of recessionary conditions; consumer debt levels; changes in laws or regulations; war and the prospect of war, including terrorist activity; inflation; the ability to hire and retain qualified employees; construction delays; the compromising of confidentiality, availability or integrity of information, including cyber-attacks; and raw material costs of suppliers. Certain of these risks are described in more detail in the "Risk Factors" section contained in Item 1A under Part 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 25, 2018, which is expressly incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and those risks described in any supplement to this prospectus under "Risk Factors," and elsewhere in documents filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. These Risk Factors should be read carefully. However, it should be understood that it is not possible to identify or predict all



**Table of Contents**

such risks and other factors that could affect these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements, and events described above and in the Risk Factors section could materially and adversely affect our business. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. Except as required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Actual results may differ materially from anticipated results.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as set forth in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the debt securities offered hereby for general corporate purposes, including repaying, redeeming or repurchasing outstanding debt and for working capital, capital expenditures, new store openings, stock repurchases and acquisitions. We may invest funds not required immediately for such purposes in short-term, interest-bearing and other investment-grade securities.

**Table of Contents**

**DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

The following text describes the general terms and provisions of debt securities that we may offer from time to time. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. We will also indicate in the supplement whether the general terms and provisions described in this prospectus apply to a particular series of debt securities. In this section entitled Description of Debt Securities, references to we, us, our, and AutoZone include only AutoZone, Inc. and not any of its subsidiaries.

We may offer either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities are together referred to in this prospectus as the debt securities. Unless otherwise specified in a supplement to this prospectus, the senior debt securities will be our direct, unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The subordinated debt securities generally will be entitled to payment only after payment of our senior debt. See Subordination below.

The debt securities will be issued under an indenture dated as of August 8, 2003, as supplemented, between us and Regions Bank, successor in interest to The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., successor in interest to Bank One Trust Company, N.A. The indenture, as supplemented, is referred to in this prospectus as the indenture. The indenture describes the terms of the debt securities and does not limit the amount of debt securities or other unsecured, senior debt we may issue. We have summarized the general terms and provisions of the debt securities to be governed by the indenture. The summary is not complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, all provisions of the indenture and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act. The indenture, as supplemented, has been incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement that we have filed with the SEC, of which this prospectus forms a part. We encourage you to read the indenture. Capitalized terms used in this description of our debt securities have the meanings specified in the indenture.

**General**

The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by our board of directors or a committee thereof and set forth or determined in the manner provided in an officers certificate or by a supplemental indenture. The particular terms of each series of debt securities will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series.

We can issue debt securities under the indenture in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium or at a discount. We need not issue all debt securities of one series at the same time and, unless otherwise provided, we may without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of that series reopen a series and issue additional debt securities of that series. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement the aggregate principal amount of any series of debt securities being offered and the following terms of such debt securities:

the title of the debt securities;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

the date or dates on which we will pay the principal on the debt securities;

Edgar Filing: AUTOZONE INC - Form S-3ASR

the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) per annum or the method used to determine the rate or rates (including any commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index) at which the debt securities will bear interest, the date or dates from which interest will accrue, the date or dates on which interest will commence and be payable and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;

the place or places where principal of, and premium and interest on, the debt securities will be payable;

**Table of Contents**

the terms and conditions upon which we may redeem the debt securities;

any obligation we have to redeem or purchase the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provision or at the option of a holder of debt securities;

the dates on which and the price or prices at which we will repurchase debt securities at the option of the holders of debt securities and other detailed terms and provisions of these repurchase obligations;

the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof;

whether the debt securities will be issued in certificated or book-entry only form;

the portion of principal amount of the debt securities payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity date, if other than the entire principal amount;

the currency of denomination of the debt securities;

the designation of the currency, currencies or currency units in which payment of principal of, and premium and interest on, the debt securities will be made;

if payments of principal of, or premium or interest on, the debt securities will be made in one or more currencies or currency units other than that or those in which the debt securities are denominated, the manner in which the exchange rate with respect to these payments will be determined;

the manner in which the amounts of payment of principal of, or premium or interest on, the debt securities will be determined, if these amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency or currencies other than that in which the debt securities are denominated or designated to be payable or by reference to a commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index;

any provisions relating to any collateral securing or guarantees of payments of principal of, or premium or interest on, the debt securities;

any addition to or change in the events of default described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities and any change in the acceleration provisions described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities;

any addition to or change in the covenants described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities;

any conversion provisions, including the conversion price, the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion if such series of debt securities are redeemed;

whether the debt securities will be senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities and, if applicable, a description of the subordination terms thereof;

any depositories, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to the debt securities; and

any other terms of the debt securities, which may modify, delete, supplement or add to any provision of the indenture as it applies to that series.

We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture. We will provide you with information on the federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **Table of Contents**

If we denominate the purchase price of any of the debt securities in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, or if the principal of, and premium and interest on, any series of debt securities is payable in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, we will provide you with information on the restrictions, elections, general tax considerations, specific terms and other information with respect to that issue of debt securities and such foreign currency or currencies or foreign currency unit or units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **Transfer and Exchange**

Each debt security will be represented by either one or more global securities registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, as depository, or a nominee (which we refer to, in the case of any debt security represented by a global debt security, as a book-entry debt security ), or a certificate issued in definitive registered form (which we refer to, in the case of any debt security represented by a certificated security, as a certificated debt security ) as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, book-entry debt securities will not be issuable in certificated form.

You may transfer or exchange certificated debt securities at any office we maintain for this purpose in accordance with the terms of the indenture. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange.

You may effect the transfer of certificated debt securities and the right to receive the principal of, and any premium and interest on, certificated debt securities only by surrendering the certificate representing those certificated debt securities and either reissuance by us or the trustee of the certificate to the new holder or the issuance by us or the trustee of a new certificate to the new holder.

We will not be required:

to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange debt securities for the period beginning at the opening of business fifteen days immediately preceding the mailing of a notice of redemption of debt securities selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing; or

to register the transfer of or exchange of debt securities selected, called or being called for redemption as a whole or the portion being redeemed of any such security selected, called or being called for redemption in part.

## **Ranking Senior Debt Securities**

Our senior debt securities will rank equally with all our other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness.

## **Subordination**

The subordination provisions for a series of subordinated debt securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement and in the subordinated debt securities themselves or a resolution of our board of directors, a supplemental indenture or an officers' certificate.

**Governing Law**

The indenture and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of New York.

**Concerning the Trustee**

As of February 8, 2019, Regions Bank serves as the trustee under the indenture. Notice to the trustee should be directed to its Corporate Trust Services Office, located at 1180 West Peachtree Street, Suite 1200, Atlanta, Georgia 30309, Attention: Corporate Trust Services. Prior to February 8, 2019, The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. served as the trustee under the indenture, as successor in interest to Bank One Trust Company, N.A.

**Table of Contents**

The indenture and provisions of the Trust Indenture Act, which are incorporated by reference therein, contain limitations on the rights of the trustee, should it become one of our creditors, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize on property received in respect of any such claim, as security or otherwise. The trustee and its affiliates may engage in, and will be permitted to continue to engage in, other transactions with us and our affiliates; provided, however, that if it acquires any conflicting interest (as defined in the Trust Indenture Act), it must eliminate the conflict or resign. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy available to the trustee. The Trust Indenture Act and the indenture provide that in case an event of default shall occur (and be continuing), the trustee will be required, in the exercise of its rights and powers, to use the degree of care and skill of a prudent person in the conduct of such person's affairs. Subject to such provision, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request of any of the holders of the debt securities issued thereunder, unless they have offered to the trustee indemnity satisfactory to it.

**Table of Contents**

**PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We may sell the debt securities described in this prospectus from time to time in one or more transactions:

to purchasers directly;

to underwriters for public offering and sale by them;

through agents;

through dealers; or

through a combination of any of the foregoing methods of sale.

We may distribute the debt securities from time to time in one or more transactions at:

a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

prices related to such prevailing market prices; or

negotiated prices.

**Direct Sales**

We may sell the debt securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act, with respect to any resale of the debt securities. A prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any sale of debt securities we are offering hereunder. Direct sales may be arranged by a securities broker-dealer or other financial intermediary.

**To Underwriters**

The applicable prospectus supplement will name any underwriter involved in a sale of debt securities. Underwriters may offer and sell debt securities at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or from time to time at market prices or at negotiated prices. Underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us from sales of debt securities in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of debt securities for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may be involved in any at the market offering of debt securities by or on our behalf.

Underwriters may sell debt securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions (which may be changed from time to time) from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of any underwriters to purchase debt securities will be subject to certain conditions precedent, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the debt securities if any are purchased.

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth whether or not underwriters may over-allot or effect transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the debt securities at levels above those that might otherwise prevail in the open market, including, for example, by entering stabilizing bids, effecting syndicate covering transactions or imposing penalty bids.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Through Agents and Dealers**

We will name any agent involved in a sale of debt securities, as well as any commissions payable by us to such agent, in a prospectus supplement. Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, any such agent will be acting on a reasonable efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

If we utilize a dealer in the sale of the debt securities being offered pursuant to this prospectus, we will sell the debt securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the debt securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

### **Delayed Delivery Contracts**

If we so specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters, dealers and agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase the debt securities pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery on future dates. Such contracts will be subject to only those conditions set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The underwriters, dealers and agents will not be responsible for the validity or performance of the contracts. We will set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the contracts the price to be paid for the debt securities, the commissions payable for solicitation of the contracts and the date in the future for delivery of the debt securities.

### **General Information**

The names of any agents, dealers or managing underwriters, and of any underwriters, involved in the sale of the debt securities under this prospectus and the applicable agent's commission, dealer's purchase price or underwriter's discount or commission as well as the net proceeds to us from the sale of debt securities will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. Any underwriting compensation paid by us to underwriters or agents in connection with the offering of debt securities and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers will be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in a sale of the debt securities may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the debt securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act. We may have agreements with underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to reimburse them for certain expenses.

Underwriters or agents and their affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us or our affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

Unless we indicate differently in a prospectus supplement, we will not list the debt securities on any securities exchange. The debt securities will be a new issue of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters that purchase the debt securities for public offering and sale may make a market in such debt securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We make no assurance as to the liquidity of or the trading markets for any debt securities.

**Table of Contents**

**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the debt securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Bass, Berry & Sims PLC, Nashville, Tennessee. Certain other matters of Nevada law with respect to the debt securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, Las Vegas, Nevada. Legal counsel to any underwriters may pass upon legal matters for such underwriters.

**EXPERTS**

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 25, 2018, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of August 25, 2018, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our consolidated financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to our unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial information for the twelve week periods ended November 17, 2018 and November 18, 2017 and the twelve and twenty-four week periods ended February 9, 2019 and February 10, 2018, incorporated by reference in this prospectus, Ernst & Young LLP reported that they have applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, their separate reports dated December 17, 2018 and March 15, 2019, included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended November 17, 2018 and February 9, 2019, and incorporated by reference herein, state that they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on that interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their reports on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. Ernst & Young LLP is not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act for their reports on the unaudited interim financial information because those reports are not a report or a part of the registration statement prepared or certified by Ernst & Young LLP within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

**PART II**

**INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS**

**Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The following table sets forth an estimate of the fees and expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the debt securities being registered hereunder. Except for the SEC registration fee, all amounts are estimates.

	<b>Amount to be Paid</b>	
SEC Registration Fee	\$	(1)
Rating Agency Fees	\$	(2)
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$	(2)
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$	(2)
Printing Expenses	\$	(2)
Trustee Issuing & Paying Agent Fees and Expenses	\$	(2)
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$	(2)
Total	\$	(2)

- (1) Deferred in accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r).
- (2) The estimated amounts of fees and expenses to be incurred in connection with any offering pursuant to this registration statement will be determined at the time of the applicable offering and will be reflected in the applicable prospectus supplement.

**Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

AutoZone, Inc.'s Restated Articles of Incorporation provide that a director or officer of AutoZone, Inc. shall not be personally liable to AutoZone, Inc. or its stockholders for damages for any breach of fiduciary duty as a director or officer, except for liability for (i) acts or omissions which involve intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of law, or (ii) the payment of distributions in violation of Nevada Revised Statutes Section 78.300. Nevada Revised Statutes Section 78.138, however, currently provides that a director or officer will not be individually liable unless it is proven that (i) the presumption established by subsection 3 of Nevada Revised Statutes Section 78.138 has been rebutted, (ii) the director's or officer's acts or omissions constituted a breach of his or her fiduciary duties, and (iii) such breach involved intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law. To the extent AutoZone, Inc.'s Restated Articles of Incorporation would be deemed to be inconsistent with Section 78.138, the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes should control.

In addition, Nevada Revised Statutes Sections 78.7502, 78.751 and 78.752, and Article III, Section 13, of AutoZone, Inc. s Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws, under certain circumstances, provide for the indemnification of the Company s officers, directors, employees and agents against liabilities they may incur in such capacities. A summary of the circumstances under which indemnification by AutoZone, Inc. is appropriate is contained herein, but such description is qualified in its entirety by reference to Article III, Section 13, of the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws.

In general, the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws provide that any officer, director, employee or agent shall be indemnified against expenses including attorneys fees, fines, settlements or judgments which were actually and reasonably incurred in connection with a legal proceeding, other than one brought by or on the behalf of AutoZone, Inc., to which he or she was a party as a result of such relationship, if he or she either is not liable pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes Section 78.138 or if he or she acted in good faith, and in the manner he or she believed to be in or not opposed to AutoZone, Inc. s best interests and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. If the action or suit is brought by or on behalf of AutoZone, Inc., the person to be indemnified must have acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to AutoZone, Inc. s best interests. No indemnification will be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction, after exhaustion of all appeals therefrom, to be liable to AutoZone, Inc., or for amounts paid in settlement to AutoZone, Inc., unless and only to the extent that the court in which the action or suit was brought or other court of competent jurisdiction, determines upon application that in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.

Any indemnification described in the previous paragraphs, unless ordered by a court or advanced as provided in the succeeding paragraph, must be made by AutoZone, Inc. only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances. The determination must be made (i) by the stockholders, (ii) by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to the act, suit

**Table of Contents**

or proceeding, (iii) if a majority vote of a quorum of directors who were not parties to the act, suit or proceeding so orders, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion or (iv) if a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to the act, suit or proceeding cannot be obtained, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion. To the extent that a director, officer, employee or agent of AutoZone, Inc. has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in the previous paragraph, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she must be indemnified by AutoZone, Inc. against expenses, including attorneys' fees, actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with the defense.

Expenses incurred by an officer or director in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by AutoZone, Inc. in advance of the final disposition of the action, suit or proceeding, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or officer to repay the amount if it is ultimately determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified by AutoZone, Inc. as authorized by the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws. Such expenses incurred by other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the Board of Directors deems appropriate.

The indemnification and advancement of expenses authorized in or ordered by a court as described in the foregoing paragraphs, (i) does not exclude any other rights to which a person seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under the Restated Articles of Incorporation or any by-law, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, for either an action in his or her official capacity or an action in another capacity while holding such office, except that indemnification, unless ordered by a court as described in the third preceding paragraph or for advancement of expenses made as described in the next preceding paragraph, may not be made to or on behalf of any director or officer if a final adjudication establishes that his or her acts or omissions involved intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law and were material to the cause of action; and (ii) continues for a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and inures to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person. If a claim for indemnification or payment of expenses under Article III, Section 13, of the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws is not paid in full within ninety (90) days after a written claim therefor has been received by AutoZone, Inc., the claimant may file suit to recover the unpaid amount of such claim and, if successful in whole or in part, shall be entitled to be paid the expenses of prosecuting such claim. In any such action, AutoZone, Inc. shall have the burden of proving that the claimant was not entitled to the requested indemnification or payment of expenses under applicable law.

The Board of Directors may authorize, by a vote of a majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors, AutoZone, Inc. to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of AutoZone, Inc. or is or was serving at AutoZone, Inc.'s request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not AutoZone, Inc. would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under provisions of Article III, Section 13, of the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws. AutoZone, Inc. has purchased insurance for its directors and officers for certain losses arising from claims or charges made against them in their capacities as directors and officers. The Board of Directors may authorize AutoZone, Inc. to enter into a contract with any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of AutoZone, Inc. or is or was serving at AutoZone, Inc.'s request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise providing for indemnification rights equivalent to or, if the Board of Directors so determines, greater than those provided for in Article III, Section 13, of the Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws.

**Item 16. Exhibits.**

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
1.1*	Underwriting Agreement.
3.1	<u>Restated Articles of Incorporation of AutoZone, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended February 13, 1999).</u>
3.2	<u>Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws of AutoZone, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 19, 2018).</u>
4.1	<u>Indenture dated as of August 8, 2003, between AutoZone, Inc. and Bank One Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-3, File No. 333-107828, dated August 8, 2003).</u>
4.2	<u>Agreement of Resignation, Appointment and Acceptance by and among AutoZone, Inc., The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as prior Trustee, and Regions Bank, as successor Trustee, dated January 29, 2019.</u>
4.3*	Form of Officers Certificate(s) pursuant to Section 3.2 of the Indenture setting forth the terms of the applicable notes.

---

**Table of Contents**

4.4*	Form of Note.
5.1	<u>Opinion of Bass, Berry &amp; Sims PLC.</u>
5.2	<u>Opinion of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP.</u>
15.1	<u>Letter of Ernst &amp; Young LLP re Unaudited Interim Financial Information.</u>
23.1	<u>Consent of Ernst &amp; Young LLP.</u>
23.2	<u>Consent of Bass, Berry &amp; Sims PLC (included in Exhibit 5.1).</u>
23.3	<u>Consent of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP (included Exhibit 5.2)</u>
24.1	<u>Power of Attorney (included on the signature page hereof).</u>
25.1	<u>Statement of Eligibility on Form T-1 under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of Regions Bank, as Trustee under the Indenture.</u>

\* To be filed by amendment or incorporated by reference from a Current Report on Form 8-K in connection with offerings of debt securities.

**Item 17. Undertakings.**

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
  - (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
  - (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and
  - (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(1)(iii) do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-1, Form S-3, Form SF-3 or Form F-3, and the information required to be included in a post-effective

## Edgar Filing: AUTOZONE INC - Form S-3ASR

amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or, as to a registration statement on Form S-3, Form SF-3 or Form F-3, is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

II-3

**Table of Contents**

- (4) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933:
- (i) each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
  - (ii) each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.
- (5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of securities, in a primary offering of the securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:
- (i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
  - (ii) any free writing prospectus to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
  - (iii) the portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
  - (iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

- (b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
  
- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.
  
- (d) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Memphis, state of Tennessee, as of the 4th day of April, 2019.

AUTOZONE, INC.

By: /s/ William C. Rhodes, III  
 William C. Rhodes, III  
 Chairman, President, Chief Executive  
 Officer and Director

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Kristen C. Wright and William T. Giles, and each of them, his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
/s/ William C. Rhodes, III	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer	April 4, 2019
William C. Rhodes, III	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ William T. Giles	Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President Finance and Information Technology	April 4, 2019
William T. Giles	(Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ Charlie Pleas, III	Senior Vice President and Controller	April 4, 2019
Charlie Pleas, III	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
/s/ Douglas H. Brooks	Director	April 4, 2019

Douglas H. Brooks

/s/ Linda A. Goodspeed

Director

April 4, 2019

Linda A. Goodspeed

/s/ Earl G. Graves, Jr.

Director

April 4, 2019

Earl G. Graves, Jr.

/s/ Enderson Guimaraes

Director

April 4, 2019

Enderson Guimaraes

II-5

**Table of Contents**

/s/ D. Bryan Jordan	Director	April 4, 2019
D. Bryan Jordan		
/s/ Gale V. King	Director	April 4, 2019
Gale V. King		
/s/ W. Andrew McKenna	Director	April 4, 2019
W. Andrew McKenna		
/s/ George R. Mrkonic, Jr.	Director	April 4, 2019
George R. Mrkonic, Jr.		
/s/ Luis P. Nieto	Director	April 4, 2019
Luis P. Nieto		
/s/ Jill A. Soltau	Director	April 4, 2019
Jill A. Soltau		