

Edgar Filing: BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC - Form 13F-HR

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC  
Form 13F-HR  
November 14, 2008

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

Form 13F

Form 13F COVER PAGE

Report for the Calendar Year or Quarter Ended: September 30, 2008

Check here if Amendment [ ]; Amendment Number: \_\_\_\_\_

This Amendment (Check only one.): [ ] is a restatement.  
[ ] adds new holdings entries.

Institutional Investment Manager Filing this Report:

Name: Berkshire Hathaway Inc.  
Address: 1440 Kiewit Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68131

Form 13F File Number: 28-4545

The institutional investment manager filing this report and the person by whom it is signed hereby represent that the person signing the report is authorized to submit it, that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete, and that it is understood that all required items, statements, schedules, lists, and tables, are considered integral parts of this form.

Person Signing this Report on Behalf of Reporting Manager:

Name: Marc D. Hamburg  
Title: Vice President  
Phone: 402-346-1400

Signature, Place, and Date of Signing:

|                     |               |                   |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| (s) Marc D. Hamburg | Omaha, NE     | November 14, 2008 |
| -----               | -----         | -----             |
| [Signature]         | [City, State] | [Date]            |

Report Type (Check only one.):

- [ ] 13F HOLDINGS REPORT. (Check here if all holdings of this reporting manager are reported in this report.)
- [ ] 13F NOTICE. (Check here if no holdings reported are in this report, and all holdings are reported by other reporting manager(s).)
- [X] 13F COMBINATION REPORT. (Check here if a portion of the holdings for this reporting manager are reported in this report and a portion are reported by other reporting manager(s).)

List of Other Managers Reporting for this Manager:

Form 13F File Number    Name

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28-5194

General Re - New England Asset Management, Inc.

Form 13F  
SUMMARY PAGE

Report Summary:

Number of Other Included Managers: 21  
 Form 13F Information Table Entry Total: 109  
 Form 13F Information Table Value Total: \$69,889,879  
 (thousands)

List of Other Included Managers:

Provide a numbered list of the name(s) and Form 13F file number(s) of all institutional investment managers with respect to which this report is filed, other than the manager filing this report.

[If there are no entries in this list, state "NONE" and omit the column headings and list entries.]

| NO. | FORM 13F FILE NUMBER | NAME  |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| 1.  | 28-5678              | Berkshire Hathaway Life Insurance Co. of Nebraska |
| 2.  | 28-10388             | BH Columbia Inc.                                  |
| 3.  | 28-719               | Blue Chip Stamps                                  |
| 4.  | 28-554               | Buffett, Warren E.                                |
| 5.  | 28-1517              | Columbia Insurance Co.                            |
| 6.  | 28-2226              | Cornhusker Casualty Co.                           |
| 7.  | 28-06102             | Cypress Insurance Company                         |
| 8.  | 28-11217             | Fechheimer Brothers Company                       |
| 9.  | 28-                  | GEC Investment Managers                           |
| 10. | 28-852               | GEICO Corp.                                       |
| 11. | 28-101               | Government Employees Ins. Corp.                   |
| 12. | 28-                  | Medical Protective Corp.                          |
| 13. | 28-1066              | National Fire & Marine                            |
| 14. | 28-718               | National Indemnity Co.                            |
| 15. | 28-5006              | National Liability & Fire Ins. Co.                |
| 16. | 28-11222             | Nebraska Furniture Mart                           |
| 17. | 28-717               | OBH Inc.  |
| 18. | 28-                  | U.S. Investment Corp.                             |
| 19. | 28-1357              | Wesco Financial Corp.                             |
| 20. | 28-3091              | Wesco Financial Ins. Co.                          |
| 21. | 28-3105              | Wesco Holdings Midwest, Inc.                      |

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.  
 Form 13F Information Table  
 September 30, 2008

| Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 | Column 4 | Column 5 | Column 6                 | Co |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----|
|          |          |          |          |          | Investment<br>Discretion |    |

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| Name of Issuer                  | Title of Class | CUSIP Number | Market                       | Shares or              | -----               |                        | O          |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------|
|                                 |                |              | Value<br>(In<br>Thousands)   | Principal<br>Amount \$ | (a) Shared-<br>Sole | (b) Shared-<br>Defined |            |
| American Express Co.            | Com            | 025816 10 9  | 610,296                      | 17,225,400             |                     | X                      | 4, 2, 5, 1 |
|                                 |                |              | 283,250                      | 7,994,634              |                     | X                      | 4, 13, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 4,260,666                    | 120,255,879            |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 68,844                       | 1,943,100              |                     | X                      | 4, 3, 17,  |
|                                 |                |              | 49,592                       | 1,399,713              |                     | X                      | 4, 16, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 29,755                       | 839,832                |                     | X                      | 4, 8, 17   |
| Anheuser Busch Cos.<br>Inc.     | Com            | 035229 10 3  | 69,164                       | 1,952,142              |                     | X                      | 4, 17      |
|                                 |                |              | 885,794                      | 13,652,800             |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| Bank of America<br>Corp.        | Com            | 060505 10 4  | 12,470                       | 192,200                |                     | X                      | 4, 18      |
|                                 |                |              | 175,000                      | 5,000,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
| Burlington Northern<br>Santa Fe | Com            | 12189T 10 4  | 5,895,686                    | 63,785,418             |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| Carmax Inc.                     | Com            | 143130 10 2  | 258,217                      | 18,444,100             |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
| Coca Cola                       | Com            | 191216 10 0  | 21,152                       | 400,000                |                     | X                      | 4, 17      |
|                                 |                |              | 93,915                       | 1,776,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 15, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 381,032                      | 7,205,600              |                     | X                      | 4, 3, 17,  |
|                                 |                |              | 2,122,688                    | 40,141,600             |                     | X                      | 4, 2, 5, 1 |
|                                 |                |              | 7,400,323                    | 139,945,600            |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 483,281                      | 9,139,200              |                     | X                      | 4, 13, 17  |
| Comcast Corp                    | CLA SPL        | 20030N 20 0  | 25,382                       | 480,000                |                     | X                      | 4, 16, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 48,227                       | 912,000                |                     | X                      | 4, 7, 17   |
|                                 |                |              | 236,640                      | 12,000,000             |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
|                                 |                |              | 11,585                       | 1,218,199              |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| Comdisco Holding Co.            | Com            | 200334 10 0  | 2,881                        | 302,963                |                     | X                      | 4, 2, 5, 1 |
|                                 |                |              | 164                          | 17,215                 |                     | X                      | 4, 13, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 5,563,762                    | 75,955,800             |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| ConocoPhillips                  | Com            | 20825C 10 4  | 146,500                      | 2,000,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 13, 17  |
|                                 |                |              | 439,500                      | 6,000,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
|                                 |                |              | 341,142                      | 5,254,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| Costco Wholesale<br>Corp.       | Com            | 22160K 10 5  | 163,411                      | 2,908,700              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
| Eaton Corporation               | Com            | 278058 10 2  | 58,299                       | 3,447,600              |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| Gannett Inc.                    | Com            | 364730 10 1  | 198,336                      | 7,777,900              |                     | X                      | 4          |
| General Electric Co.            | Com            | 369604 10 3  | 65,646                       | 1,510,500              |                     | X                      | 4, 14, 17  |
| GlaxoSmithKline                 | ADR            | 37733W 10 5  | 95,793                       | 3,700,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
| Home Depot Inc.                 | Com            | 437076 10 2  | 19,824                       | 636,600                |                     | X                      | 4          |
| Ingersoll-Rd Company<br>LTD.    | CLA            | G4776G 10 1  | 155,850                      | 5,000,000              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
|                                 |                |              | 82,315                       | 3,372,200              |                     | X                      | 4, 9, 10,  |
| Iron Mountain Inc.              | Com            | 462846 10 6  | -----<br>30,756,382<br>----- |                        |                     |                        |            |

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.  
Form 13F Information Table  
September 30, 2008

| Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 | Column 4 | Column 5 | Column 6 | Co         |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| -----    |          |          |          |          |          | Investment |

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| Name of Issuer         | Title of Class | CUSIP Number | Market Value (In Thousands) | Shares or Principal Amount \$ | Discretion |                     | O         |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|
|                        |                |              |                             |                               | (a) Sole   | (b) Shared- Defined |           |
| Johnson & Johnson      | Com            | 478160 10 4  | 299,463                     | 4,322,500                     |            | X                   | 4         |
|                        |                |              | 1,404,049                   | 20,266,300                    |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 1,828,032                   | 26,386,148                    |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 22,537                      | 325,300                       |            | X                   | 4, 3, 17, |
|                        |                |              | 629,561                     | 9,087,200                     |            | X                   | 4, 13, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 54,870                      | 792,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
| Kraft Foods Inc.       | Com            | 50075N 10 4  | 39,836                      | 575,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 18     |
|                        |                |              | 2,922,034                   | 89,222,400                    |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 1,008,382                   | 30,790,300                    |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 327,500                     | 10,000,000                    |            | X                   | 4, 3, 17, |
|                        |                |              | 8,508                       | 259,800                       |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 262,000                     | 8,000,000                     |            | X                   | 4         |
| Lowes Companies Inc.   | Com            | 548661 10 7  | 153,985                     | 6,500,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| M & T Bank Corporation | Com            | 55261F 10 4  | 535,800                     | 6,003,360                     |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 48,730                      | 546,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                        |                |              | 14,789                      | 165,700                       |            | X                   | 4, 13, 17 |
| Moody's                | Com            | 615369 10 5  | 1,097,540                   | 32,280,600                    |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
| NRG Energy, Inc.       | Com            | 629377 50 8  | 534,460                     | 15,719,400                    |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                        |                |              | 123,750                     | 5,000,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| Nike Inc.              | Com            | 654106 10 3  | 511,183                     | 7,641,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| Norfolk Southern Corp. | Com            | 655844 10 8  | 127,984                     | 1,933,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 4,076,865                   | 58,500,000                    |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
| Procter & Gamble Co.   | Com            | 742718 10 9  | 1,515,897                   | 21,752,000                    |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 434,866                     | 6,240,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 13, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 498,597                     | 7,154,500                     |            | X                   | 4, 3, 17, |
|                        |                |              | 54,358                      | 780,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 15, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 108,716                     | 1,560,000                     |            | X                   | 4, 7, 17  |
|                        |                |              | 382,284                     | 5,485,500                     |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                        |                |              | 304,894                     | 4,375,000                     |            | X                   | 4         |
|                        |                |              | 16,057                      | 488,500                       |            | X                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                        |                |              | 95,196                      | 2,896,133                     |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 5,565                       | 169,300                       |            | X                   | 4, 13, 17 |
| Sanofi Aventis         | ADR            | 80105N 10 5  | 11,505                      | 350,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 105,484                     | 2,344,600                     |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 38,691                      | 860,000                       |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
| Sun Trusts Banks Inc.  | Com            | 867914 10 3  | 4,638                       | 77,551                        |            | X                   | 1, 4, 14, |
|                        |                |              | 26,894                      | 449,728                       |            | X                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                        |                |              | 99,083                      | 1,656,900                     |            | X                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 38,254                      | 639,700                       |            | X                   | 4, 13, 17 |
|                        |                |              | 19,772,837                  |                               |            |                     |           |

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.  
Form 13F Information Table  
September 30, 2008

Column 1      Column 2      Column 3      Column 4      Column 5      Column 6      Co

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| Name of Issuer             | Title of Class | CUSIP Number | Market Value (In Thousands) | Shares or Principal Amount \$ | Investment Discretion |                     |                   | O Ma      |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|
|                            |                |              |                             |                               | (a) Sole              | (b) Shared- Defined | (c) Shared- Other |           |
| US Bancorp                 | Com            | 902973 30 4  | 839,529                     | 23,307,300                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                            |                |              | 942,086                     | 26,154,526                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 301,307                     | 8,365,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4         |
|                            |                |              | 360,200                     | 10,000,000                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 3, 17, |
|                            |                |              | 78,307                      | 2,174,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                            |                |              | 62,855                      | 1,745,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 18     |
|                            |                |              | 42,910                      | 1,191,300                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| USG Corporation            | Com            | 903293 40 5  | 437,048                     | 17,072,192                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 14, 17 |
| Union Pacific Corp.        | Com            | 907818 10 8  | 633,751                     | 8,906,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
| United Parcel Service Inc. | Com            | 911312 10 6  | 89,882                      | 1,429,200                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4         |
| United Health Group Inc.   | Com            | 91324P 10 2  | 161,986                     | 6,379,900                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| Wabco Holdings Inc.        | Com            | 92927K 10 2  | 95,958                      | 2,700,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.      | Com            | 931142 10 3  | 1,137,808                   | 18,998,300                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 56,656                      | 946,000                       |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                            |                |              | 497,913                     | 894,304                       |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 14, 17 |
| Washington Post Co.        | Cl B           | 939640 10 8  | 82,574                      | 148,311                       |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 5, 1,  |
|                            |                |              | 360,872                     | 648,165                       |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 13, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 20,592                      | 36,985                        |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 15, 17 |
| Wells Fargo & Co. Del      | Com            | 949746 10 1  | 2,007,458                   | 53,489,420                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
|                            |                |              | 474,499                     | 12,643,200                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 3, 17, |
|                            |                |              | 1,437,888                   | 38,313,040                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 13, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 104,634                     | 2,788,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 15, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 37,530                      | 1,000,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 17     |
|                            |                |              | 4,854,291                   | 129,344,288                   |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 14, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 60,413                      | 1,609,720                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 16, 17 |
|                            |                |              | 63,801                      | 1,700,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 8, 17  |
|                            |                |              | 30,775                      | 820,000                       |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 7, 17  |
|                            |                |              | 750,600                     | 20,000,000                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
|                            |                |              | 600,480                     | 16,000,000                    |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 1, 6,  |
|                            |                |              | 300,240                     | 8,000,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4         |
|                            |                |              | 101,331                     | 2,700,000                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 2, 5,  |
| 75,060                     | 2,000,000      |              | X                           |                               | 4, 18                 |                     |                   |           |
| Wellpoint Inc.             | Com            | 949773V 10 7 | 223,424                     | 4,777,300                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 9, 10, |
| Wesco Finl Corp.           | Com            | 950817 10 6  | 2,036,002                   | 5,703,087                     |                       | X                   |                   | 4, 3, 17  |
|                            |                |              | 19,360,660                  |                               |                       |                     |                   |           |
| GRAND TOTAL                |                |              | \$69,889,879                |                               |                       |                     |                   |           |