

KNOWLEDGE BASE · PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Uptime Kuma on a VPS: watch your sites from a server of your own

VPS & Servers

CODE

RLX-INT-KB-6048

VERSION

v2026.10.15

COUNTRY · LANGUAGE

International · English

MozOut International

RLX Holdings (Pty) Ltd. · Group RLX Holdings

Tax no. (SARS) 943 907 6234 · Registration no. (CIPC) 2025/667953/07

<https://www.my.mozout.com/knowledgebase/6048>



The short answer: Uptime Kuma is a free program that **checks every minute whether your sites are up** and warns you (by Telegram, e-mail and others) when they are not. It runs in a Docker container, on a VPS. The most important point: **put it on a different server from the one it watches**, or it falls together with the site and warns nobody.

What the site needs

What	What to do
What it watches	Web pages (response code and a word in the text), ports, pings, certificates about to expire, scheduled tasks that must “give a signal”.
How it warns	Telegram, e-mail, WhatsApp through other tools, and many other channels: Alerts by Telegram .
Where it runs	On a VPS, in Docker. It needs a port (3001, by default) and HTTPS behind a proxy.
Away from the watched server	If you watch sites on the same VPS it runs on, a VPS failure wipes out the watcher. Use another server, or a small VPS just for this.
Data	It lives in a folder on the server: that is what you back up.

Getting started

1**Install Docker** on the VPS: **Installing Docker**.

2

Create a folder and in it the compose.yaml file: `services:`

```
uptime-kuma:
  image: louislam/uptime-kuma:1
  restart: unless-stopped
  ports:
    - "127.0.0.1:3001:3001"
  volumes:
    - ./data:/app/data
```

3

Start it: `docker compose up -d`. The port stays on the server itself (127.0.0.1); outside access goes through the proxy.

4

Put the proxy and HTTPS in front (Uptime Kuma uses real-time connections, so the proxy must let them through): **Nginx in front of a container** and **HTTPS for a container**.

5

Open the address, create the administrator account, add each site to watch and connect a notice. Test by switching off a trial site.

Create the administrator account on the very first visit. Until then, anyone who reaches the address can create it. Use a long password and the program's own two-step verification. Back up the data folder: **Volumes and data folders**.

For a simple check without a server of your own, see **An alert when the site goes down**. To update Uptime Kuma without losing data: **Updating a Docker application**.

Want help setting up your watcher? Open a ticket with the VPS plan.

[Open a support ticket](#)

SEE ALSO

[Getting an alert when your site goes down: a simple uptime check](#)

[Sending alerts to Telegram from your website or a script](#)

[Installing Docker and Docker Compose on a VPS](#)

[Nginx as a reverse proxy in front of a container](#)

[HTTPS for a container: a certificate and a domain](#)

[Updating a Docker application without losing data](#)



Online version of this document

MozOut is a leading internet services company, with a mission to help businesses to be born and prosper through technology.

2020

FOUNDED

37,000+

CLIENTS

130+

SIGN-UPS A DAY

MozOut International

RLX Holdings (Pty) Ltd. • Group RLX Holdings

TAX NO. (SARS)

943 907 6234

REGISTRATION NO.
(CIPC)

2025/667953/07

REGISTERED OFFICE

1111 Olive Street
Saint Louis 63101, Missouri, United States

CONTACT

info@mozout.com • +27 78 823 3325 • www.mozout.com

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday - 08 AM to 04 PM
Saturday & Sunday - Closed