

# [How-To] Install Uptime Kuma on Ubuntu 24 LTS VM

## Purpose

This doc will walk through steps to install Uptime Kuma on a Ubuntu 24 LTS VM.

## Prerequisites

List of prerequisites:

- Sudo user
- Ubuntu 24 LTS VM

## Full Installation Guide for Uptime Kuma on Ubuntu 24.04

Uptime Kuma is a self-hosted monitoring tool similar to Uptime Robot. It provides an easy-to-use web UI for monitoring services, websites, and endpoints.

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### Step 1: Prepare the Ubuntu VM

Ensure your Ubuntu VM is **fully updated**:

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y
```

Install necessary dependencies:

```
sudo apt install -y curl nano git unzip
```

### Step 2: Create a Dedicated User (Optional)

For security, it's recommended to **run Uptime Kuma as a separate user**:

```
sudo useradd -m -s /bin/bash uptimekuma
```

Switch to the user:

```
sudo su - uptimekuma
```

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## Step 3: Install Node.js & NPM

Uptime Kuma requires **Node.js (LTS version)**. Install Node.js 18+ using `nvm` (Node Version Manager):

```
curl -fsSL https://raw.githubusercontent.com/nvm-sh/nvm/v0.39.4/install.sh | bash
source ~/.bashrc
nvm install 18
```

Verify the installation:

```
node -v
npm -v
```

☐ You should see versions **18.x.x** for Node.js and **a matching npm version**.

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## Step 4: Download and Install Uptime Kuma

Clone the Uptime Kuma repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/louislam/uptime-kuma.git
cd uptime-kuma
```

Install dependencies:

```
npm install
```

Build Uptime Kuma:

```
npm run setup
```

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## Step 5: Run Uptime Kuma Manually (First Test)

Run Uptime Kuma to check if it works:

```
node server/server.js
```

You should see output similar to:

```
Listening on http://127.0.0.1:3001
```

□ Open a browser and go to:

```
http://your-server-ip:3001
```

If it works, **press** **CTRL + C** **to stop it** and continue to the next step.

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## Step 6: Create a Systemd Service

To keep Uptime Kuma running in the background, create a **systemd service**:

```
sudo nano /etc/systemd/system/uptime-kuma.service
```

Paste the following:

```
[Unit]
Description=Uptime Kuma
After=network.target

[Service]
Type=simple
User=uptimekuma
Group=uptimekuma
WorkingDirectory=/home/uptimekuma/uptime-kuma
ExecStart=/home/uptimekuma/.nvm/versions/node/v18.20.6/bin/node /home/uptimekuma/uptime-
kuma/server/server.js
Environment="PATH=/home/uptimekuma/.nvm/versions/node/v18.20.6/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin
:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin"
Restart=always
RestartSec=5
```

```
[Install]
```

```
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

Save and exit ( `CTRL+X`, then `Y`, then `Enter` ).

Set ownership to new user of uptime kuma directory:

```
sudo chown -R uptimekuma:uptimekuma /home/uptimekuma/uptime-kuma
```

Reload systemd and enable the service:

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload
sudo systemctl enable --now uptime-kuma
```

Check if it's running:

```
sudo systemctl status uptime-kuma
```

□ You should see "**Active: running**".

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## Step 7: Access Uptime Kuma

Open a browser and go to:

```
http://your-server-ip:3001
```

Follow the setup wizard to create an admin account.

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## Step 8: (Optional) Set Up Reverse Proxy with Nginx

If you want to access Uptime Kuma via a **domain name** (e.g., `status.yourdomain.com` ), set up **Nginx as a reverse proxy**.

### 1. Install Nginx

```
sudo apt install -y nginx
```

### 2. Configure Nginx for Uptime Kuma

Create a new Nginx config:

```
sudo nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/uptime-kuma
```

Add the following:

```
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name status.yourdomain.com;  
  
    location / {  
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:3001;  
        proxy_set_header Host $host;  
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;  
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;  
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-Proto $scheme;  
    }  
}
```

Save and exit.

### 3. Enable the Configuration

```
sudo ln -s /etc/nginx/sites-available/uptime-kuma /etc/nginx/sites-enabled/
```

Test and restart Nginx:

```
sudo nginx -t  
sudo systemctl restart nginx
```

☐ Now, Uptime Kuma is accessible at `http://status.yourdomain.com`.

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## Step 9: (Optional) Enable HTTPS with Let's Encrypt

To secure Uptime Kuma with **HTTPS**, use **Certbot**:

```
sudo apt install -y certbot python3-certbot-nginx
```

Run:

```
sudo certbot --nginx -d status.yourdomain.com
```

Certbot will automatically apply an SSL certificate.

Now, access:

`https://status.yourdomain.com`

🟢 **Done!** 🟢

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## Final Notes

- **Data Location:** All Uptime Kuma data is stored in `/home/uptimekuma/uptime-kuma/data/`
- **Backup:** Regularly back up the `data/` folder.
- **Updating Uptime Kuma:**

```
sudo su - uptimekuma
cd uptime-kuma
git pull
npm install
npm run setup
sudo systemctl restart uptime-kuma
```

Now, you have **Uptime Kuma fully set up!** 🟢 Let me know if you need help!

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