What Is Website Monitoring?

Website monitoring is the process of testing or and logging the uptime performance of one or more websites. Site monitoring is often used by businesses to ensure that their customers are able to access their websites and perform actions such as searching, online shopping, checking an account balance, or simply researching.

Local VS Global Site Monitoring

Website monitoring can be done locally (inside the datacenter firewall) or globally (multiple test sites globally positioned). Traditional network monitoring focuses on local, or inside the datacenter firewall. However, global site monitoring will test and monitor site uptime and identify issues across the internet backbone. Global website monitoring is also known as end-user monitoring or end-to-end uptime monitoring. Real user monitoring measures the performance and availability experienced by actual users, diagnoses individual incidents, and tracks the impact of a change.

Site Uptime Calculations

Here is a table which you can use to calculate your websites uptime

Uptime Percentage	Known As	Total Yearly Downtime
90%	N/A	876 Hours
95%	n/a	438Hours
99%	Two 9's	87 hours, 36 minutes
99.9%	Three 9's	8 hours, 45 minutes, 36 seconds
99.99%	Four 9's	52 minutes, 33.6 seconds
99.999%	Five 9's	5 minutes, 15.36 seconds
99.9999%	Six 9's	31.68 seconds

Global Monitoring Network

Website monitoring services usually have multiple servers strategically positioned around the globe - USA, Europe, Asia, etc. By having multiple site monitoring test stations in different geographic locations, the monitoring service can determine if a web server is available across different networks globally. By offering global site monitoring stations, you are much less likely to receive a false downtime alert due to a local internet outage.

Site Downtime Notification Options

When a monitored website is found to be down, the site owner or site administrators need to be immediately notified of its condition. Communication services such as email, sms(text message), phone calls or faxes are used to notify one or more persons or departments that a site has failed to respond.