# Custom Alert Format Variables

When Uptime Infrastructure Monitor sends an alert, it uses a specific template for the subject line and body of the alert. While this standard alert format is well suited for most alerting needs, you can modify the content of the alert by adding or removing variables from one of the three custom alert templates.

The variables are the building blocks of a custom alert format and can be added or removed to suit your needs. The table below explains the variables used in a custom alert format for a more comprehensive guide refer to Alert Profile and Action Profile Variables.

| Variable | Definition |
| --- | --- |
| $DISPLAYNAME$ | The name of the entity as it appears in the Uptime Infrastructure Monitor Web interface.<br>A system can have a different display name than the hostname. For example, you can assign the display name Toronto Mail Server to a system with the host name 10.1.1.6. |
| $DATETIME$ | The date and time at which the alert was generated. This appears in the subject line of the message. |
| $SERVICENAME$ | The name of the service, along with the name of the host for which the alert has been generated. This appears in the subject line of the message. |
| $SERVICESTATE$ | One of the following:<br><br>• OK<br>• WARN<br>• CRIT<br>• MAINT<br>• UNKNOWN<br><br>This appears in the subject line of the message. |
| $DATE$ | The date on which the alert was generated. |
| $TIME$ | The time at which the alert was generated. |
| $HOSTNAME$ | The name of the host for which this alert was generated. |
| $HOSTSTATE$ | One of the following:<br><br>• OK<br>• WARN<br>• CRIT<br>• MAINT<br>• UNKNOWN |
| $TYPE$ | The type of notification:<br><br>• Problem<br>• Recovery |
| $OUTPUT$ | The output of the monitor that generated the alert. |