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Subject: Re: Backing up via rsync -- Does it work?  
Posted by [votsalo](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2011 16:45:00 GMT  
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I believe rsync has no problem with dev files.

I use rsync -a -v to backup my non-openvz OS  
I have tried a successful restore (when I regretted an OS upgrade).  
I have also cloned my OS to another partition this way. I just had to edit fstab and change the UUIDs to the new filesystems.

However, I do the backup/restore while the OS is not running, because I'm worried about data inconsistencies. I boot to another OS, backup my main OS, and then reboot the main OS. Consequently I don't do these OS backups very often. I do them before I make any major changes (such as upgrading the OS). I backup my working files with rsync daily, without rebooting.

I don't know if the same applies to openvz, since it may have more exotic special files, directory hard links, etc.

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