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# TAR a system over SSH

Here is a sample command. You may need sudo/access to files/etc. I assume you can sort that out.

```
ssh user@host sudo tar -cvpf - --one-file-system / > backup-(date +%Y-%m-%d--%H-%M).tar
```

This will print the file list to you over stdout, and create a tar file piped to your local system with the root filesystem. Simple and effective to back up a VPS. SSH is encrypted, so this should be fine from that regard.

No this is probably not a good idea. Yes it works.

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