Tips for breaking open your new geode

It is not necessary to break open a geode to enjoy the specimen, but if it seems light, it could be partially hollow and contain many different minerals. Because some geodes may be solid quartz, the risk of eye injury from flying fragments must be realized. Here are some tips to break it open safely.

First, cover the geode with an old towel, and put on eye protection. Gently tap the geode under the towel at first. Some geodes may break open easily and excessive force may ruin the specimen.

After three or four taps with a hammer, the geode should break into half. Lift the towel to view your progress. If you have a stubborn geode, cover it with the towel again, and use the hammer. Be patient and be careful.