Faulty Brick walk through

Likely cause of problem:
1) “Clicking Brick Syndrome”
2) Faulty battery
3) Faulty NXT

Step 1
In a very quiet environment, place the brick to your ear and you may hear a “tick….tick…..tick” sound repeating. If the brick has been in this state for a long time the battery will have gone flat as well and it will no longer click. If you hear clicking, this is good news, go to step 4.

Step 2
If there is no clicking, replace the batteries with a fully charged rechargeable battery from a currently working NXT or put in 6 fresh AA batteries. If the ‘faulty’ NXT now turns on then the battery may need to be recharged or is faulty. If it doesn’t turn on check for the clicking noise as directed in step 1. If you now hear clicking go to step 4.

Step 3
There is another step to try. When putting batteries in and out of the NXT, if not done correctly, it is possible to inadvertently bend the coiled battery connector. Pull the battery out and check that the bottom (closest to the inputs) battery spring isn’t bent down. If it is bend it back to make connection with the battery terminal.

Step 4
If you haven’t already, swap the batteries from a fully charged and working NXT to the ‘faulty’ NXT. Locate the reset button, ‘hidden’ on the underside of the NXT, inside the peg hole directly under the USB connection port, as per the diagram below. Use an unwound paperclip to press down on the reset button for a full 20 seconds. You should be able to feel it get pressed down slightly. Repeat this, if you are unsure whether the end of the paperclip is actually pressing down on the reset button or it slips off the button.

Step 5
Reconnect the NXT to the computer and try to reload the firmware.
In NXT-G go to the Tools -> Update NXT Firmware, select the latest firmware version and press download. It should now update the firmware and turn on.
Locating the re-set button

**To check if a rechargeable battery is faulty, swap it into a known working NXT. If that doesn’t work, then recharge the battery for another 4 hours or so and try again. If this doesn’t work it may well be faulty.**

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